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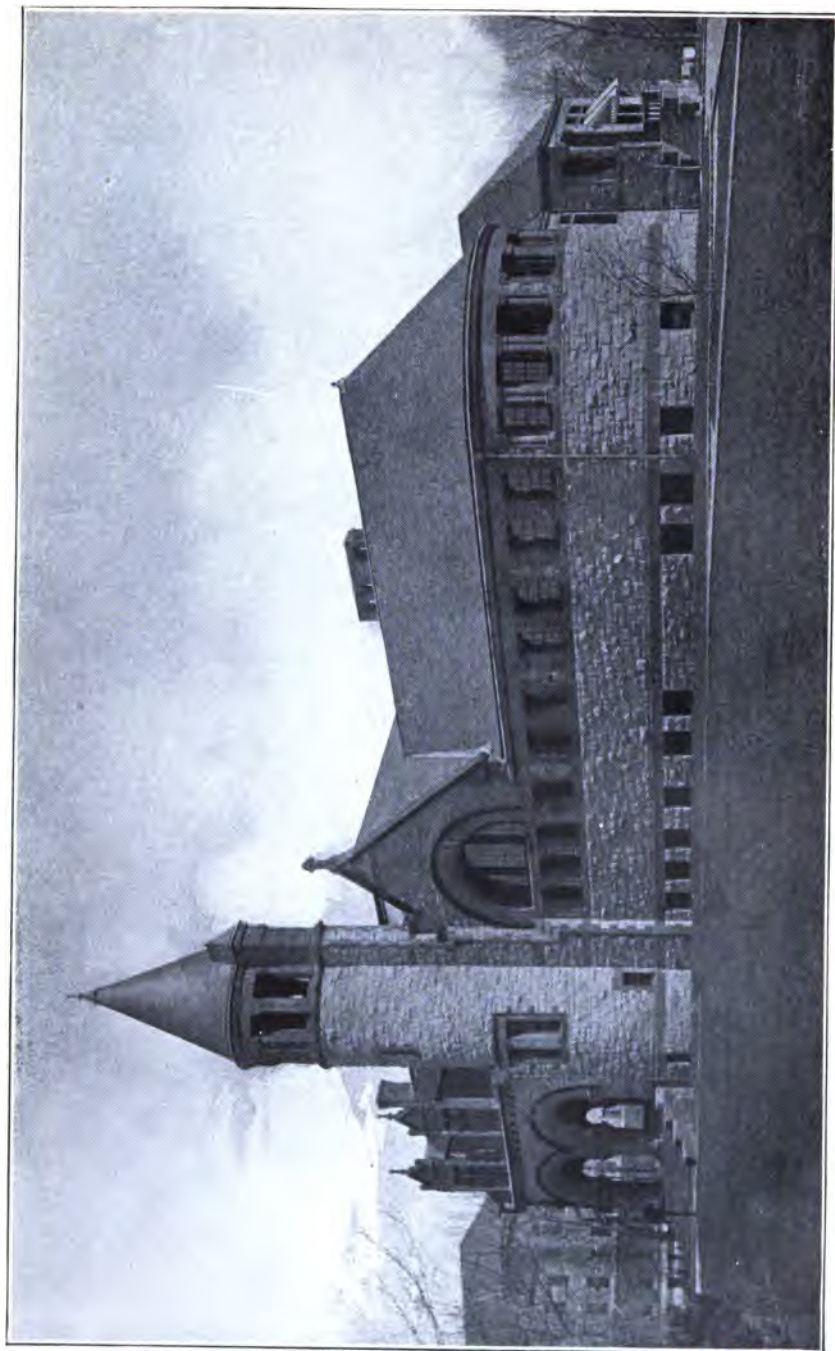
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1858-1908

HISTORY

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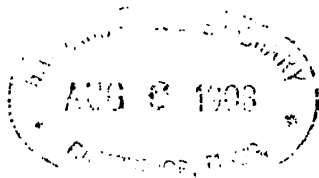
CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

WITH THE ADDRESSES AT THE
CELEBRATION OF ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
LISTS OF ITS OFFICERS, ETC.

COMPILED FOR THE TRUSTEES
BY
WILLIAM JAMES ROLFE
AND
CLARENCE WALTER AYER

CAMBRIDGE
PRINTED FOR THE TRUSTEES
1908

B8415.1.20



Cambridge Public Library

ALFRED MUDGE & SON, INC., PRINTERS,
BOSTON, MASS., U. S. A.

PREFATORY NOTE

A concise History of the Cambridge Public Library was compiled by Charles Walker, secretary of the board of trustees, and Almira L. Hayward, librarian, and printed by the trustees in 1891 ; and an article on the Public Library was contributed by Dr. Rolfe to the memorial volume issued in connection with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the city, and entitled "The Cambridge of Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-Six." Portions of the former work have been used, with little or no alteration, in the extended historical sketch prepared for the present volume by Dr. Rolfe, with the co-operation of Mr. Ayer, who has also collected and arranged all the other matter in the book.

The illustrations, including the circulation chart, are reprinted from the Annual Report of the Trustees for 1907.

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HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY

1858-1908

THE DANA LIBRARY

The Cambridge Public Library had its origin in the Cambridge Athenæum, which was incorporated in February, 1849, for the purpose, as stated in its charter, "of establishing and maintaining in the city of Cambridge a lyceum, public library, reading room, lectures on scientific and literary subjects, and for promoting such other kindred objects as the members of the corporation shall from time to time deem advisable and proper."

In October, 1850, a lot of land, containing ten thousand square feet, and situated at the corner of Main * and Pleasant streets, was presented to the corporation by Edmund T. Dana, of Cambridge, and accepted at a legal meeting held on the twenty-fifth of that month. The deed of gift contained the following conditions: (1) That the corporation should, within two years, erect upon the land, and complete, so as to be fit for occupation, a building suitable for the purposes of the Cambridge Athenæum, as set forth in the act whereby the same was incorporated; (2) That the land and building (with the exception of the lower story and cellar of the building, which might be used for other purposes) should be used forever for the purpose set forth in the Act of Incorporation.

In the following year an edifice, named the "Athenæum," was erected upon the land presented by Mr. Dana, at a cost of about \$18,000; it was dedicated and opened to the public

* Now Massachusetts avenue.

in November, 1851. It appears, then, that one of the chief objects of this corporation in obtaining a charter, and of Mr. Dana in his gift of land to the corporation, was the establishment and maintenance in the city of Cambridge of a public library. A reading room, which was also contemplated, was abandoned, after trial, for want of support.

In April, 1855, the directors received official notice that the late James Brown, of Watertown, had bequeathed books to the value of \$1000 to the Athenæum, and had directed his executors to purchase and deliver the same, agreeably to a list to be furnished by the directors.

Immediate measures were taken to establish the contemplated library. A commodious room was set apart and furnished in the Athenæum building; a code of regulations was adopted; and a catalogue of the books received from the bequest of Mr. Brown and of the few volumes contributed from other sources was prepared and printed. The cost of printing the catalogue, and the other incidental expenses, were defrayed by a timely donation of \$250, made for that purpose by the executors of the will of the late Thomas Dowse, of Cambridge. After various delays incident to such undertakings, the library was opened for the delivery of books in November, 1857. Miss Caroline F. Orne was appointed librarian. According to the regulations, any person residing in Cambridge, known to the librarian, or recommended by any citizen thus known, was entitled to the use of the library, upon the payment of one dollar per annum, and subscribing a promise to comply with the regulations adopted for its management.

THE TRANSFER TO THE CITY

In March, 1858, the entire property of the Cambridge Athenæum was transferred to the city, which obligated itself to contribute not less than \$300 per annum, for the term of fifteen years, for the support and increase of the library, and to maintain it forever for the use of the inhabitants of Cambridge.

The obligation above referred to was in the following words:—

*To all men to whom these Presents shall come,
The City of Cambridge sends greeting:*

Whereas, EDMUND T. DANA, Esq., of Cambridge, hath heretofore conveyed to the Cambridge Athenæum a certain parcel of land in Cambridge, at the corner of Main Street and Pleasant Street, so called, and in his deed thereof imposed certain conditions and restrictions; and hath, by his subsequent deed to said Cambridge Athenæum, released said land from said conditions and restrictions; and said Cambridge Athenæum hath since conveyed said land, with the building thereon, to the City of Cambridge, —

Now, know ye: That in consideration of the premises, and of One Dollar to the said City paid by him, the said Edmund T. Dana, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the said City of Cambridge doth hereby covenant and agree to and with the said Edmund T. Dana, his heirs, executors, and administrators, that the said City of Cambridge will, from and after the date hereof, forever maintain, for the benefit of the inhabitants of Cambridge, under reasonable regulations, that Library heretofore owned by said Athenæum, but now owned by said City, and all additions made thereto; and will expend upon said Library, for the increase and care thereof, not less than Three Hundred Dollars every year, for the term of fifteen years hereafter next ensuing.

In witness whereof, the Mayor of said City, thereunto by a vote of the City Council duly authorized, hath subscribed hereto the name of said City, and affixed the common seal thereof, this first day of April, A. D. eighteen hundred and fifty-eight.

THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE,

By JOHN SARGENT, *Mayor.* [SEAL.]

Attest:

JUSTIN A. JACOBS.

The foregoing is a true copy of the Obligation given by the City of Cambridge to Edmund T. Dana, being taken (with the exception of the date and execution) from the original draft thereof, reported by the Joint Special Committee on the Purchase of the Athenæum Building, and approved by the City Council, April 1, 1858.

Attest:

JUSTIN A. JACOBS, *City Clerk.*

In consideration of this obligation assumed by the city, Mr. Dana released the Athenæum corporation from the conditions contained in his deed of gift. The "Athenæum" thenceforth became the "City Hall"; and the "Athenæum Library," now the property of the city, received the name of the "Dana Library," in accordance with the following ordinance: —

City of Cambridge.

In the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-eight.

AN ORDINANCE**IN RELATION TO THE DANA LIBRARY.**

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Cambridge, as follows :—

SEC. 1. — The Library received of the " Cambridge Athenæum " shall be called the Dana Library.

SEC. 2. — The care, superintendence, and management of said Library shall be vested in a Board of Trustees, to consist of one member of the Board of Aldermen, one member of the Common Council, and three citizens at large, — to be chosen as hereinafter provided, — of which the Mayor of the City of Cambridge shall be a member and Chairman, *ex officio*.

SEC. 3. — There shall be elected forthwith, in convention of the City Council, one member of the Board of Aldermen and one member of the Common Council, to hold office for the current municipal year ; and three citizens at large, one of whom shall hold office for one year, one for two years, and one for three years, from the third Monday of January last, their several terms of office to be determined by lot. And annually thereafter, in the month of January, there shall be chosen one member of the Board of Aldermen, one member of the Common Council, to serve for the current municipal year ; and one citizen at large, whose term of office shall be three years from the third Monday of said January. And in case of a vacancy in said Board of Trustees by death, resignation, or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled forthwith, in the manner aforesaid.

SEC. 4. — Said Board of Trustees shall meet and organize as soon as may be ; may choose one of their number Secretary ; and three members of said Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. They shall choose forthwith, and thereafter annually in the month of January, a suitable person to be Librarian, — who shall be removable at the pleasure of the Board, and shall receive such compensation as the Trustees may, from time to time, determine ; provided, however, the amount shall in no case exceed the sum especially appropriated by the City Council therefor. And in case the amount appropriated by the City Council for salary of Librarian shall exceed the amount paid by said Trustees, the balance shall be expended in the purchase of books for said Library.

SEC. 5. — The Trustees shall expend all moneys presented to the Library, or appropriated by the City Council, for the purchase of books or the improvement of the Library. They may establish such fees for

the use of said Library, and shall make and publish such needful By-Laws and Regulations as shall extend the benefits of the institution as widely as practicable throughout the community; and all moneys received for the use of the Library shall be paid quarterly into the City Treasury.

SEC. 6. — The said Trustees shall present to the City Council, on or before the first day of December in each year, a report of all their acts, doings, and proceedings, and a statement of the condition of the Library, the number of books added during the past year, with an accurate account of all receipts and expenditures, together with such information and suggestions as they may deem desirable.

SEC. 7. — No money shall be paid from the City Treasury on account of the Library except by order of the Trustees, and in pursuance of an order signed by the Mayor; and in no case shall the amount drawn exceed the amount appropriated for the Library.

IN COMMON COUNCIL, June 24, 1858.

Passed to be ordained.

JAMES C. FISK, *President*.

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN, June 30, 1858.

Passed to be ordained.

JOHN SARGENT, *Mayor*.

A true copy.

Attest:

JUSTIN A. JACOBS, *City Clerk*.

I hereby certify that on the twenty-eighth day of July, A. D. eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, in convention of both branches of the City Council, John Remick, of the Board of Aldermen, Marshall T. Bigelow, of the Common Council, and Messrs. George Livermore, Edmund T. Dana, and Anson Hooker, at large, were elected Trustees of the Dana Library; that the respective terms of office of the three gentlemen last named were determined by lot, when it appeared that George Livermore was elected to serve one year, Anson Hooker for two years, and Edmund T. Dana for three years.

I further certify that on the eleventh day of August, A. D. eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, in convention of both branches of the City Council, W. W. Wellington was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of said Library, in place of Edmund T. Dana, who had declined to accept office.

Attest:

JUSTIN A. JACOBS, *City Clerk*.

The intentions of Mr. Dana in relation to the library, which till 1879 bore his name, are evident from the following clause, being clause No. 23 of his last will and testament: —

"I give to Edmund T. Hastings and to William W. Wellington, and to the survivor of them, fifteen thousand dollars, in trust, to appropriate the same in such manner as I may by any instrument in writing under my hand appoint."

In a separate instrument, bearing the same date as the will, the testator did direct as follows: —

"To Edmund T. Hastings and William W. Wellington, or whosoever else may execute the trust created by the twenty-third clause of my will :

"The sum of fifteen thousand dollars, bequeathed by the said twenty-third clause, is to be paid over, if and whenever my trustees or trustee shall deem it expedient to do so, to the City of Cambridge, to be held by the said City in trust, as an entire fund, the income thereof to be appropriated annually, forever, to the increase and support of the library of the Cambridge Athenæum : provided, however, that if and whenever my said trustees or trustee shall be of opinion that it is not expedient that the said sum of fifteen thousand dollars should be so appropriated, the same to be paid over to my heirs-at-law ; and provided, further, that the said capital sum be paid over, either to said City of Cambridge, or to my heirs-at-law, within three years from my decease.

EDM. T. DANA."

The trustees appointed by the will, in an instrument signed by them and transmitted to the city council, signified their intention to pay this sum of fifteen thousand dollars to the city of Cambridge, whenever they should receive it from Mr. Dana's executor.

It unfortunately happened that the instrument referred to in Mr. Dana's will and copied above, though signed by Mr. Dana, was not duly attested. It was therefore contended by the residuary legatees, "that, by the twenty-third clause in the will, nothing passed to the City of Cambridge, the same not being named as legatee ; and it not being competent for a testator, by a duly executed will, to create for himself a power to dispose of his estate to legatees by another instrument not duly executed as a will or codicil." The case was brought by the administrator, with the will annexed, before the Supreme Court of this state, which, after a full hearing, decided that the twenty-third clause in the will, with the unattested instrument signed by Mr. Dana, did not "create a valid bequest to the City of Cambridge."

Thus were the generous intentions of Mr. Dana frustrated, and the munificent donation which he designed for the library passed into the hands of his residuary legatees.

THE EARLY LIBRARIANS

We learn from contemporary records that in 1858 "the choice of a librarian naturally fell on Miss Caroline F. Orne, because of her interest in the project, her public spirit, and the place she held in the literary circle of Cambridge," and she filled the office for sixteen years with steadily growing success and popularity. Her acquaintance among the people interested in books was wide, and with her keen personal interest in them she actually guided the choice of reading for many patrons of the library, particularly the young. She had written much for the magazines of the day, chiefly verse and short stories, and later published two volumes of poems. She enjoyed the friendship of Longfellow, Lowell, and other literary men and women of the time. Her broad acquaintance with the best literature and her excellent judgment and taste were of great value in the selection of books for the library, no less than in encouraging and guiding readers in their use.

In 1874 the library was made free to the public. In June of that year Miss Orne resigned the librarianship, and the trustees voted to give her a hundred and fifty dollars in addition to what was then due her, in recognition of her long and faithful service. Her salary had been raised in 1861 to \$150, in 1864 to \$200, in 1867 to \$250, in 1870 to \$350, and in 1872 to \$400. In 1874, when the daily service with longer hours was established, the salary was increased to \$600.

Miss Orne was succeeded in the librarianship by Miss Almira L. Hayward, who held it until her death twenty years later. These two estimable women thus occupied the chief position in the management of the library for the first thirty-six years in the half century of its history now (1908) completed; and, long as this period of service was, the growth and prosperity of the institution, under inadequate financial support and other adverse conditions, were far greater than could fairly have

been expected. The city council meanwhile had ignored all the appeals of the trustees and the librarian for more money and better quarters. In 1884 Miss Hayward reminded them that for ten years, though the library had increased from 7,000 to 17,000 volumes, the annual appropriation had remained about the same, and she contrasts this with what had been done for the schools. She asks very pertinently: "May not the public library be considered as much a means of education as our common schools? When these appeal to the city for additional funds, their requests become demands. They do not say 'we want,' but 'we must have,' and they are not refused." The city attempted no reply to this home thrust.

In April, 1895, Miss Ellen F. Lowell, after more than twenty years of faithful and efficient service under the two early librarians, resigned on account of failing health. She had charge of the local and school deliveries from the beginning, and her knowledge of books and good judgment in selecting them were very useful in that work.

MR. RINDGE'S GIFT TO THE LIBRARY

The old Athenæum building was made to serve the combined needs of the city government and the public library for eight years after its purchase by the city in 1858. In the spring of 1866 it became necessary, on account of the growth of the library, to change its quarters to the Masonic building, at the corner of Massachusetts avenue and Temple street, which was torn down in 1904. There the library remained for twenty-three years.

In 1879, by vote of the city government, the name of the library was changed to the "Cambridge Public Library," thus identifying it more closely with the other public institutions of the city.

The crowded state of the rooms occupied by the library had already begun to attract general attention, and a movement had been made by private citizens toward providing better accommodations, when unexpectedly the munificent offer of Mr. Frederick H. Rindge, formerly of Cambridge, but then

residing in Los Angeles, California, was made public through Hon. William E. Russell, then mayor of Cambridge.

On June 14, 1887, Mr. Rindge, being in Boston, sent to the mayor the following communication, which was read at the next meeting of the city council : —

HON. WILLIAM E. RUSSELL :

BOSTON, June 14, 1887.

DEAR SIR, — It would make me happy to give the City of Cambridge the tract of land bounded by Cambridge, Trowbridge, Broadway, and Irving streets, in the City of Cambridge, and to build thereon and give to said city a Public Library building, under the following conditions, — That on or within said building, tablets be placed bearing the following words :

First, — Built in gratitude to God, to His Son Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit.

Second, — The Ten Commandments, and "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Third, — Men, women, children, obey these laws. If you do, you will be happy ; if you disobey them, sorrow will come upon you.

Fourth, — It is noble to be pure ; it is right to be honest ; it is necessary to be temperate ; it is wise to be industrious, — but to know God is best of all.

Fifth, — (Words for this tablet to be given hereafter.)*

It is my wish that a portion of said tract of land be reserved as a playground for children and the young. I ask you to present this communication to the city government of Cambridge, and notify me of its action in relation to it. Should the gift be accepted, I hope to proceed at once with the work.

Yours respectfully,

FREDERICK H. RINDGE.

The mayor also stated that he had received another communication from Mr. Rindge, which read as follows : —

HON. WILLIAM E. RUSSELL :

BOSTON, June 15, 1887.

DEAR SIR, — Should the City of Cambridge accept my gift of land and Public Library building, I suggest that a committee, composed of the following named citizens of Cambridge, be appointed by the city govern-

* The words for this tablet afterward furnished were as follows : " Paul the Apostle besought men to present their bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God. The body must not be dishonored by impure acts. Wise are they who protect the purity of their blood and preserve their strength by living pure lives."

ment of Cambridge to confer with my agent, Mr. Francis J. Parker, in matters relating to the accomplishment of the purposes of the building and land : Mr. Justin Winsor, Col. T. W. Higginson, Hon. Samuel L. Montague, Hon. William E. Russell.

Yours respectfully,

FREDERICK H. RINDGE.

The mayor continued : —

" The tract of land contains nearly 115,000 square feet.* It is bounded 224 feet each on Broadway and Cambridge Streets, 590 feet on Trowbridge Street, and 520 feet on Irving Street. He desires, and I think it would at once meet the approbation of the city, that the land should be laid out as a public park. It is amply large enough for this purpose. In regard to the building, I would say it will cost between \$70,000 and \$80,000, and will be as artistically built and as beautiful as could be erected on the lot. The plans have been prepared, and are at present in the hands of Mr. Rindge's agent. Mr. Rindge goes to California Friday. He leaves his property and affairs in charge of Mr. F. J. Parker. I suggest that immediate action be taken in the matter. I have prepared a set of resolutions which I beg to present to the Board. They are as follows : —

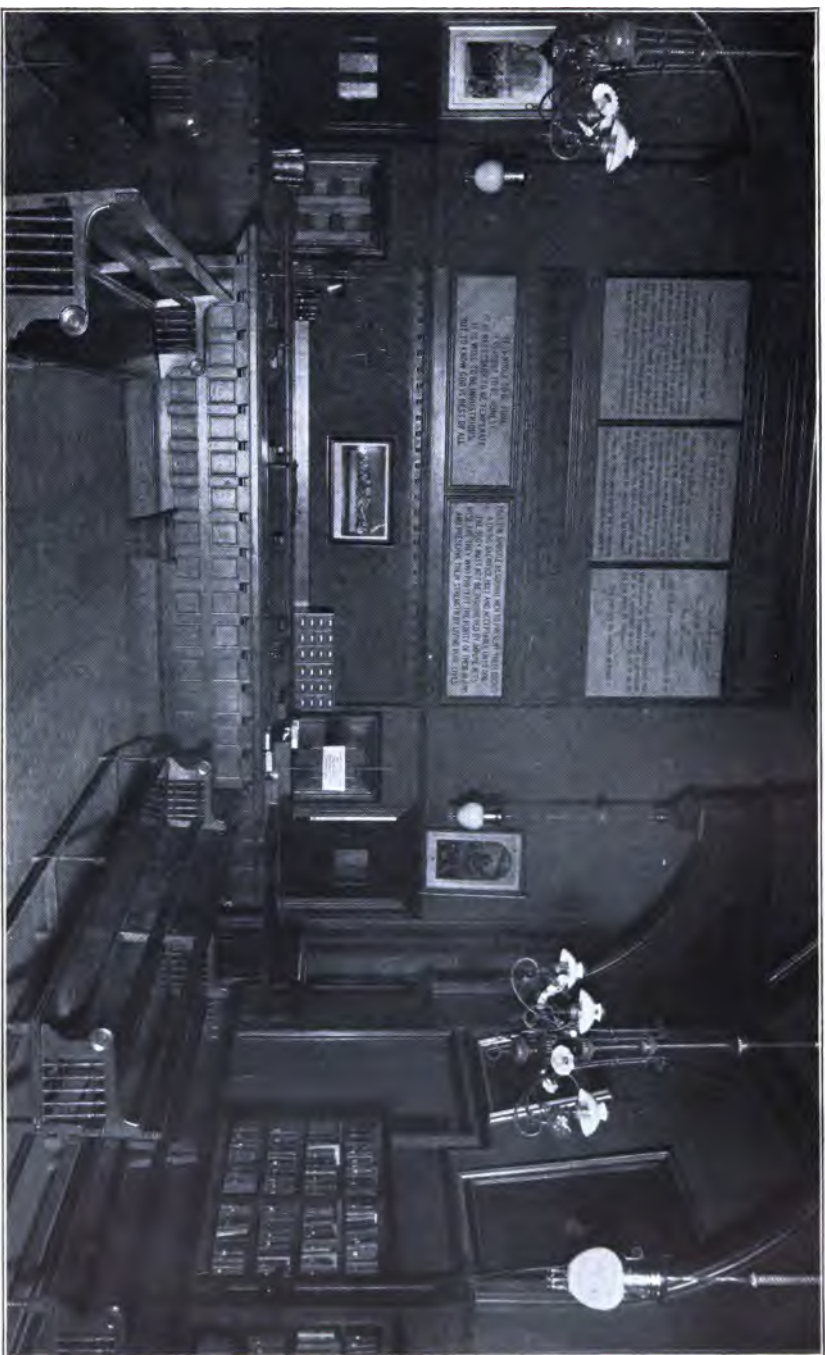
" *Resolved*, That the City of Cambridge accepts with profound gratitude the munificent gift of Mr. Frederick H. Rindge, of land and buildings for a Public Library as stated in his letter of June 14, 1887 ; that the city accepts it upon the conditions stated in said letter, which it will faithfully and gladly observe as a sacred trust, in accordance with his desire.

" *Resolved*, That in gratefully accepting this gift, the city tenders to Frederick H. Rindge its heartfelt thanks, and desires to express its sense of deep obligation to him, recognizing the Christian faith, generosity, and public spirit that have prompted him to supply a long-felt want by this gift of great and permanent usefulness."

The convention then adjourned. On the reassembling of the board of aldermen the above resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the committee suggested by Mr. Rindge was appointed. The common council concurred in this action.

The gentlemen named by Mr. Rindge accepted the trust, and plans from five of the leading architects of the country were submitted to them. Those presented by Messrs. Van Brunt & Howe were finally selected, the building was begun in the autumn of 1887, and completed in June of 1889.

* According to the City Document for 1905, the exact measurement is 141,666 square feet. The cost of the building, as stated by Governor Russell in " The Cambridge of Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-Six," was " about \$100,000."



DELIVERY ROOM

THE LIBRARY BUILDING

The library building, a fine specimen of modified Romanesque architecture, is an ornament to the city and a perpetual monument to the wise generosity of its donor. The material used is Dedham granite, relieved by trimmings of Longmeadow brown sandstone. As originally built, it was externally 130 feet long and 45 feet deep, with an imposing entrance of four arches, forming the western corner of its front, and adjoining the base of a stately round tower. (See frontispiece.) A high, arched main window gives light to a spacious delivery room, occupying the centre of the building, and a row of high windows extends along its front to the right and around a semi-circular eastern end, lighting a long and commodious reading room. The interior is finished in ash, with lofty arches of the same wood springing from the tops of the bookshelves of the delivery room and the reading room. The coloring of the walls is in terra-cotta, old gold, and olive green. On the left within the main entrance is the Cambridge Memorial room, with locked bookcases, cabinets, and drawers, for preserving books by and about Cambridge authors, pamphlets, manuscripts, relics, and other material of local interest.

The book room, or "stack," as then built, formed the rear wing, extending from the back wall of the delivery room, and had a capacity of about 60,000 volumes. It was made as nearly fire-proof as possible, with iron bookcases extending from the basement to the third story, iron floors and stairs, and fire-proof doors shutting it off from the main building. The main part of the building is equipped for lighting by both gas and electricity, the stack for electricity only.

Within the Dana library a reading room was established by the trustees in 1872, and opened to the public in 1873. It was well appreciated, but its small size and inconvenient facilities were a frequent source of regret. It continued, however, with but little improvement until superseded by the new reading room, which seats seventy-two persons at six tables, with twelve chairs at each table. On open shelves about the room is arranged the reference library. Here, also are kept

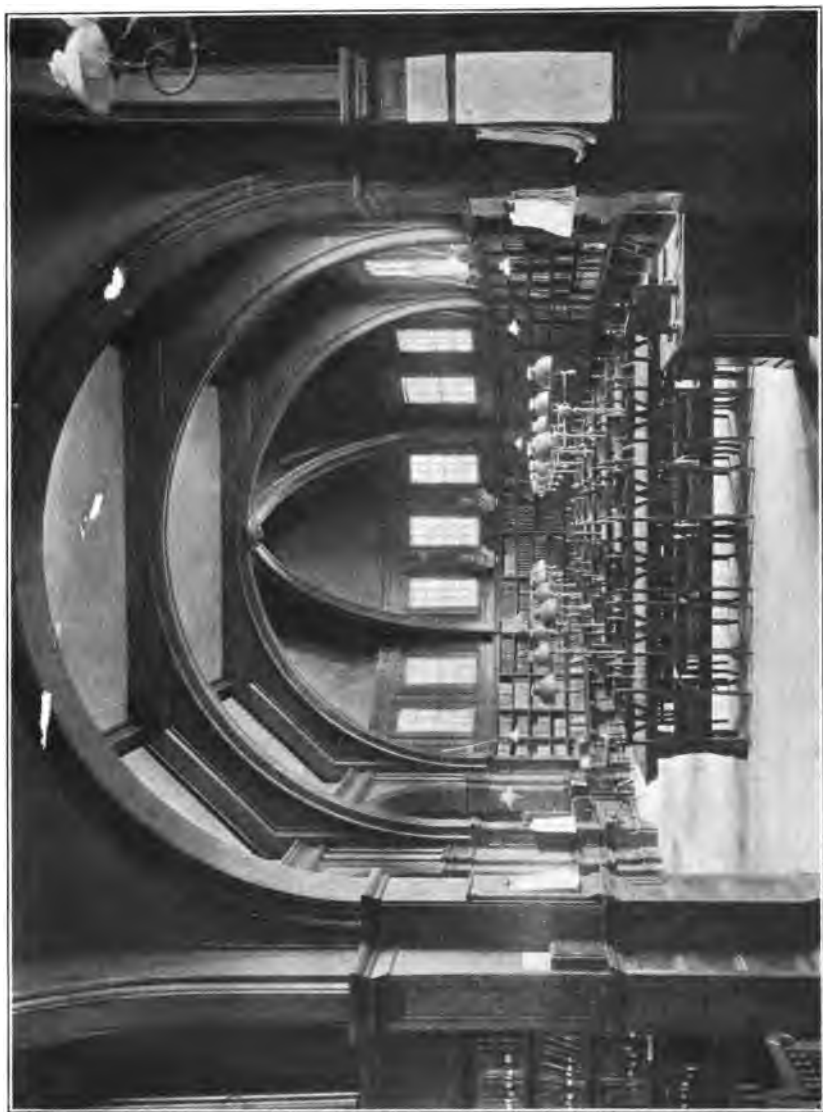
the current magazines. The newspapers, however, were put at first in the room just over the main entrance; in 1892 they were moved to the basement, to make room for the Wyman collection of medical books; later they were placed in one corner of the main delivery room; and in 1904 they were given better quarters in the outer Memorial room.

The books of the library having been moved to the new building, it was dedicated June 29, 1889. The presentation of the deed of gift was made, on behalf of Mr. Rindge, by Francis J. Parker, Esq., his agent, and accepted by Hon. Henry H. Gilmore, mayor of Cambridge. He in turn presented the keys of the building to Hon. Samuel L. Montague, president of the board of trustees, who replied by appropriate words of thanks. Other addresses were made by Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, of the board of trustees, and Mr. Samuel S. Green, librarian of the Worcester public library. The library was opened to the public on the first Monday in August, having been closed during June and July.

In 1894, under the direction of the same architects as had planned the main building, a wing was added, providing an attractive reading room for children, with an adjoining catalogue room and librarian's office. In 1904 all the juvenile books were placed upon open shelves, the stack still remaining closed to the public. On the second floor, besides a trustees' room, is a large room which is used for books on American local history and genealogy. Except for these two rooms, a small one over the main entrance, and the upper half of the stack, the library is planned for only one main floor, with a basement.

In 1902 the same architects were employed to enlarge the stack to double its former capacity, and in 1904 a room at its end was fitted up for the local and school delivery work, which had previously been done in the children's room. To the end of the stack much other special work of the library was also transferred.

In 1858 the library was open only on Saturday, from 4 to 8 P. M. In 1859 it was open also on Wednesday for the same hours. It was not until 1870 that it was open for three days of the week from 4 to 8 P. M., and in 1874 the annual fee of



REFERENCE ROOM

one dollar was abolished. When the new building was finished in 1889 the hours on week-days were from 10 A. M. to 8 P. M., and the reading room remained open until 9 P. M. In March, 1893, the reading room was opened on Sundays, from 2 to 6 P. M. In January, 1897, the reading room remained open until 10 P. M., on Sundays as well as on week-days, and in 1905 the whole library was opened at 9 A. M. In May, 1907, owing to lack of funds, the library was closed at 9 P. M., and the children's room at 6 P. M., instead of 8 P. M., as heretofore, the latter hour to be restored (see Appendix I, p. 79).

THE DEATH OF MISS HAYWARD

On the 11th of October, 1894, while busy in the rearrangement of books, in connection with the first enlargement of the building, Miss Hayward inadvertently stepped through the opening of a ventilator in the reading room which had been left for a short time uncovered for some work upon it. She was well aware that it was open, — it had been opened by her own direction, — but apparently forgot it in the absorption of her task. Falling upon the asphalt pavement of the basement, she must have struck upon her head, and never recovered consciousness, though medical aid was immediately summoned.

In judging of the work accomplished in the earlier half of our library history, we must remember that it was less than twenty-five years ago that librarianship was first recognized as a profession, and that provision for systematic training in it did not begin until 1887, when the first library school was opened at Columbia College in New York. It was not till 1900, or later, that preparatory training for such schools was required for admission, equivalent to two or more years of college work, and that a regular degree was given only after at least two full years of additional work in the school.

The "old-time librarian" might or might not be a college graduate. He might be a scholar of the "bookworm" type, a superannuated pedagogue, or that pathetic character known as a "decayed clergyman." In rare instances he might possess aptitude and enthusiasm for the work, and might develop into a good librarian, like "self-made" men in other pro-

fessions. Some of the best librarians in the country were in service forty or more years ago. Here and there a woman, like Miss Hewins at Hartford, might become eminent as the head of a comparatively large library. Our Miss Hayward was a librarian of this exceptional type. The writer knew her somewhat intimately, both in the library and outside of it, from the earlier years of her connection with it, and he can fully endorse the tribute paid her by the trustees in their report for 1894 (written by Colonel Higginson): —

“The trustees of the Cambridge public library desire to place on record their sense of the great loss sustained by the library and the city in the sudden death of Miss Almira L. Hayward, the librarian in chief. She was in many respects a remarkable woman. Her conscientious self-devotion was without limit, and long experience had developed in her some of the very highest qualities of a librarian: knowledge of books, industry, organizing power, and a ready sympathy with all students. More remarkable than these traits, perhaps, was the promptness with which she adapted herself to the great enlargement of the library, and that transformation of its methods which accompanied its removal to a new building. Instead of being at the head of a small and practically local library, she found herself placed in charge of a large central institution, extending its local deliveries into all parts of the city, and opening constantly new paths of usefulness. Some of these methods did not at first approve themselves to her judgment, yet she showed the rare quality of adopting, when necessary, the plans of others as if they were her own, so that no one would have suspected that they were not. In other cases she held firmly to her own views, and finally brought the trustees round to her opinion. The plan of an addition to the building, with special reference to the needs of the children, was largely hers; she was spared to see its completion, and met her death while placing the new rooms in order. She died literally in harness, as she always wished to die; and her name will be forever associated with the most important formative period of her beloved institution.”

After Miss Hayward's death, the care of the library de-

volved upon Miss Etta L. Russell, who, as the trustees remark, "assumed the duty at a peculiarly hard time, as the new children's room was just ready for occupancy, and the initiation of this change, together with the preparation of the librarian's annual report, devolved entirely upon her. So well did she manage it that the new arrangement has worked from the beginning without the slightest friction." Miss Russell, who, as the trustees add, "declined to be a candidate for promotion to the vacancy" in the librarianship, refers in her report to Miss Hayward as follows:—

"No more precious legacy could have been left by our beloved librarian than this library, equipped as it is for broad and useful work. To those daily associated with her, the memory of her faithful, conscientious spirit, and her readiness in serving others, will be ever an incentive and inspiration. By her thoughtful consideration, her unvarying kindness and sympathy, her rare justice, she endeared herself to all and won the deepest love and respect."

In Miss Hayward's annual report for 1883 (the first year in which the librarian's report was printed with that of the trustees), she says: "The books on the list prepared by the superintendent of schools, not in the library, have been purchased, except a few too juvenile for our use. This list has received, and deserved, much attention and praise from teachers and librarians in all parts of the country. It reflects much credit upon the library, since the majority of the books were already on our shelves, showing that we had provided the best reading for children before our attention was thus directed to the subject."

The present writer saw this list before the superintendent of schools, Mr. Francis Cogswell, sent it to the library; and for many years (before and after becoming a trustee) he was intimately familiar with that gentleman's keen interest and valuable assistance in promoting the co-operation of the library and the schools.

The work accomplished by Miss Hayward in this and other ways was the more creditable on account of the trying and discouraging conditions under which it was done. As early as

1881 the library had outgrown the small and inconvenient rooms in which it was kept. In the annual report for 1882 the trustees say : " We need more and better rooms, fitted for the business of a library that is open to all ; a special building that shall be an ornament to the city and a safe and convenient depository for our books. . . . To quote a remark made publicly by our distinguished citizen, Dr. Alexander McKenzie, in reference to this matter, ' The narrow chambers which are used for the purposes of the library are a discredit to a city with our literary pretensions.' " In 1883 the trustees say : " The need of more room for the library, and better accommodation for its patrons, is becoming imperative. The purchases of this year have necessitated more bookcases. These have filled the library room to its utmost capacity." In 1885 they say : " We cannot close our report without emphasizing the need of larger and better accommodations. The librarian has in her report again called attention to the urgent needs of the library ; to its crowded condition, and consequent inconveniences to the citizens who are its patrons, and we bespeak for this matter your early and careful consideration." The librarian says : " Students and ladies who wish to read at the library need a more quiet room, and one which affords better light than any at our command. The catalogue work is done in a room so dark that artificial light is frequently needed, a disadvantage which must be experienced to be correctly estimated." In 1886 the trustees say : " The librarian urges the necessity of a new library building. This consideration has been presented to the city council in every report for the last half-dozen years. In the meantime large yearly additions have been placed on our shelves until our rooms are full, and cannot possibly contain more without breaking up our classification. . . . The prosperity and progress of our institution demand a separate building. We are hidden away in such obscure quarters that multitudes of our citizens are ignorant of our very existence. . . . Can we wonder that we receive no more gifts or legacies when so little is done by the city to make our library appreciated and popular ? Such municipalities as Brookline, Concord, Newton, Somerville, Watertown, Woburn, and others have fine

libraries. Their citizens are proud of them, and they flourish, and in time increase the reputation of the places where they are established. Such libraries will never lack endowment." The librarian emphasizes the crowded conditions thus: "Some plan for 'enlarging our borders' must be made, or the library must stop growing. We have no room for the books that must be bought in 1887. Many books are now shelved in dark closets, where it is almost impossible to find the book desired, since in many cases there are *three lines of books, one behind another, on the same shelf*. This arrangement was considered a temporary one *five years ago*, and still we are tenants in rooms totally inadequate to our needs." All the italics in this quotation are Miss Hayward's own, but they were hardly necessary to emphasize the record of municipal neglect and indifference. Luckily Mr. Rindge's munificence now came to the relief of the library. The trustees in their next report (1887) congratulate themselves that they can "omit all appeal for a new building," which had been "for years the principal topic" of their annual communications to the city government; and Miss Hayward says: "The appeal for more room which has heretofore been the burden of the librarian's report must, in this her fourteenth, give place to congratulation and thanksgiving."

THE LIBRARIANSHIP OF MR. GIFFORD

In 1894 the library was fortunate in securing Mr. William L. R. Gifford as successor to Miss Hayward. He was thoroughly qualified by character, education, and experience, not only to continue the good work she had done, but to extend and enlarge the capabilities and facilities of the library as a factor in our educational system, through his familiarity with the recent growth and development of library science. He was a Harvard graduate of 1884, had for ten years been connected in New Bedford with a larger library than ours, and, as our trustees remark in their annual report for 1894, "brought with him the highest of recommendations, the expressed unwillingness of his former employers to part with him."

On coming here in March, 1895, Mr. Gifford found our library well organized, and showing in its methods of work

the good results of the ability, enthusiasm, and experience of the exceptional "old-time librarian" of the best type whom we had lost. An excellent foundation had been laid for the work of an expert in the theory and practice of the new library science, like her successor. The most important modification of the former *régime* which he introduced was a re-classification of the books and their re-arrangement in the stack, in accordance with the "Decimal" system of classification. In 1895 there were about forty-eight thousand books in the library that needed to be re-classified and re-catalogued. It would be impossible for anybody unfamiliar with the details of modern library science and practice to understand what an exacting task this was. A person trained in the new system would not have known where to look for many of the books in their old places, which were perfectly familiar to the former librarian and her staff; and she would have been puzzled at first to find certain books on the shelves to which they had been transferred, though she would doubtless have soon mastered and approved the new classification. Its obvious advantages amply repaid the immense labor it had demanded. During Mr. Gifford's administration the re-classification of the greater part of the books had been completed, including all the fiction in English, American local history, and genealogy. All this had been accomplished in addition to the regular work of that department, and along with the development of the library in all other directions.

THE LIBRARIANSHIP OF MR. AYER

In January, 1904, Mr. Gifford severed his connection with the library, to accept a similar position in the St. Louis Mercantile Library. After an interval of several months, during which Miss Russell again, and with no less ability and success than in 1894, acted as librarian, the trustees had the good fortune to secure for the office Mr. Clarence W. Ayer, then librarian of the Brockton public library. In addition to a wide experience in teaching as well as in librarianship, he brought with him a progressive spirit and a hearty interest in all the varied methods and aspects of library work. After graduating

from Harvard in 1885, he was an instructor or professor in schools, academies, and colleges for eleven years, and an assistant in the Harvard College library for four years, previous to his service for five years at Brockton. His long and varied experience in teaching has been of special value in promoting the co-operation of the library with the public schools, particularly by his frequent lectures and informal "talks" to the pupils of the upper grades, both at the school-houses and at the library, which have proved increasingly attractive and successful. In this way he may be said to have become virtually a regular "assistant teacher" in both the public and the private schools of the city. He learned how to teach by actual teaching—the best way; he knows how to teach young people, as not one out of a hundred librarians does; and he enjoys it—the sure way to make the young people enjoy it and profit by it.

Not only by largely increasing this direct training of the children in the use of the library, and in all the other forms of its co-operation with the schools, has Mr. Ayer shown his ability, energy, and enthusiasm as a progressive librarian of the modern type, but also by the marked development of the methods and instrumentalities for making the library more accessible and attractive to the whole people. All the work of the library from the outside has been materially enlarged, the traveling libraries have been established by the trustees at his suggestion, and minor improvements have been made in all departments of the service under his administration.

LOCAL DELIVERY STATIONS

In 1889 the trustees, desiring to meet the wants of those living at a distance from the central library, established four local delivery stations: two in Cambridgeport, and one each in East and North Cambridge. Of these pioneer stations only one is still in service, that at the drug store of E. C. Gove, at the corner of Massachusetts avenue and Washington street; another, that of James W. Hunnewell, in North Cambridge, became by far the most successful of all the stations, but it had to be given up in 1906 on the establishment of the new

branch library across the street. In 1890 were added two more stations, one in the Mt. Auburn district and the other in Ward 4, at the drug store of Marcellus I. Dow, the latter becoming and still continuing the most important station in that part of the city. For six years no increase in the number of stations was made. In 1896 two stations were added, one at the drug store of Miss Carrie E. Phillips, at the corner of Huron and Concord avenues, which is still in service, and the other at the extreme north of the city, and a transfer of another was made to the Prospect Union. In 1897 the new branch in East Cambridge became also a local delivery station, and the number of stations remained the same for the next five years. On May 31, 1902, the regular local deliveries ceased, owing to lack of funds; after nearly a year, on April 4, 1903, they were resumed, and five new stations were added, making in all thirteen stations. Since then the number has been reduced to eleven, involving several changes, and the addition of the North Cambridge branch. By these changes the section of the city below Inman square has lost most, two stations located within it having been discontinued.

SCHOOL DELIVERY

After this plan of the local delivery stations was found to work smoothly, a similar one for the schools was initiated in 1889. The teachers being called together for this purpose by the school committee, the plan of the proposed delivery was submitted to them and their suggestions were received. Under the plan adopted the deliveries were made weekly to each school, some on Monday, some on Wednesday, and some on Friday, baskets for the purpose being provided by the school committee. Ten books were allowed to each teacher of the high schools or of the upper grades of the grammar schools, the teachers being responsible for the books, and using them at their discretion among their pupils. The teachers were allowed to select their own books, or to receive aid from the library assistants in so doing. By this weekly delivery of books, to be used as the teachers might direct, the public schools and the library were brought into closer relations with each other, and a large amount of good reading was put into

the hands of the scholars. It has been the aim of teachers and librarian to make this a means of elevating the taste of our young people by introducing them to better books than they would themselves select.

Since the establishment of this school delivery system it has been developed by larger supplies of books, as well as by greater efforts on the part of the library staff, the school committee, and the teachers, to encourage this educational use of the library. In 1905 the plan of the school delivery was modified, and a new system of charging introduced, which had become necessary owing to the growth of the department. The number of exchanges of books was diminished, allowing each lot a longer stay in each school, the number of books was increased to a proportion of about one-fifth the number of pupils in each school, and each lot of books was sent directly to the principal of each school, to be distributed by him as seemed best. The plan was also extended to the lower grades of the grammar schools, as well as to the upper. The nearness of the high schools to the library made unnecessary any considerable use by them of the plan on its newer basis. The good results are sufficiently indicated by the fact that the school circulation has increased from 6019 volumes in 1890 to 21,406 in 1907.

This, however, does not fully represent the use made of the library by the schools. Many of the teachers have used their personal cards to draw books helpful in their work. The number of pupils having cards of their own has also greatly increased, particularly since the younger children have been allowed to have the same privilege. The children's reading room is also a very important means of furnishing good reading for the younger pupils.

The juvenile appetite for this intellectual food rapidly grows with what it feeds upon. The demands upon the school delivery, as the figures given above prove, are steadily and rapidly growing. At present, indeed, it exceeds the available supply. One of the needs of the library, so far as the schools are concerned, is for more copies of certain books very generally used. From similar grades throughout the city, requests are frequently received for long lists of books on the same subject, and these

demands have never been satisfactorily met at one time. How they may be met is a problem which the trustees are constantly endeavoring to solve. They regard the library as an integral part of our educational system, and will spare no efforts to bring it into more intimate and sympathetic relations with the schools. They believe that it will tend to lead teacher and pupil outside the narrow range of mere text-book instruction, to which they are apt to confine themselves, and thus to broaden their field of view, to enlarge their ideas, and encourage independent thought and research, and at the same time to cultivate a taste for good literature.

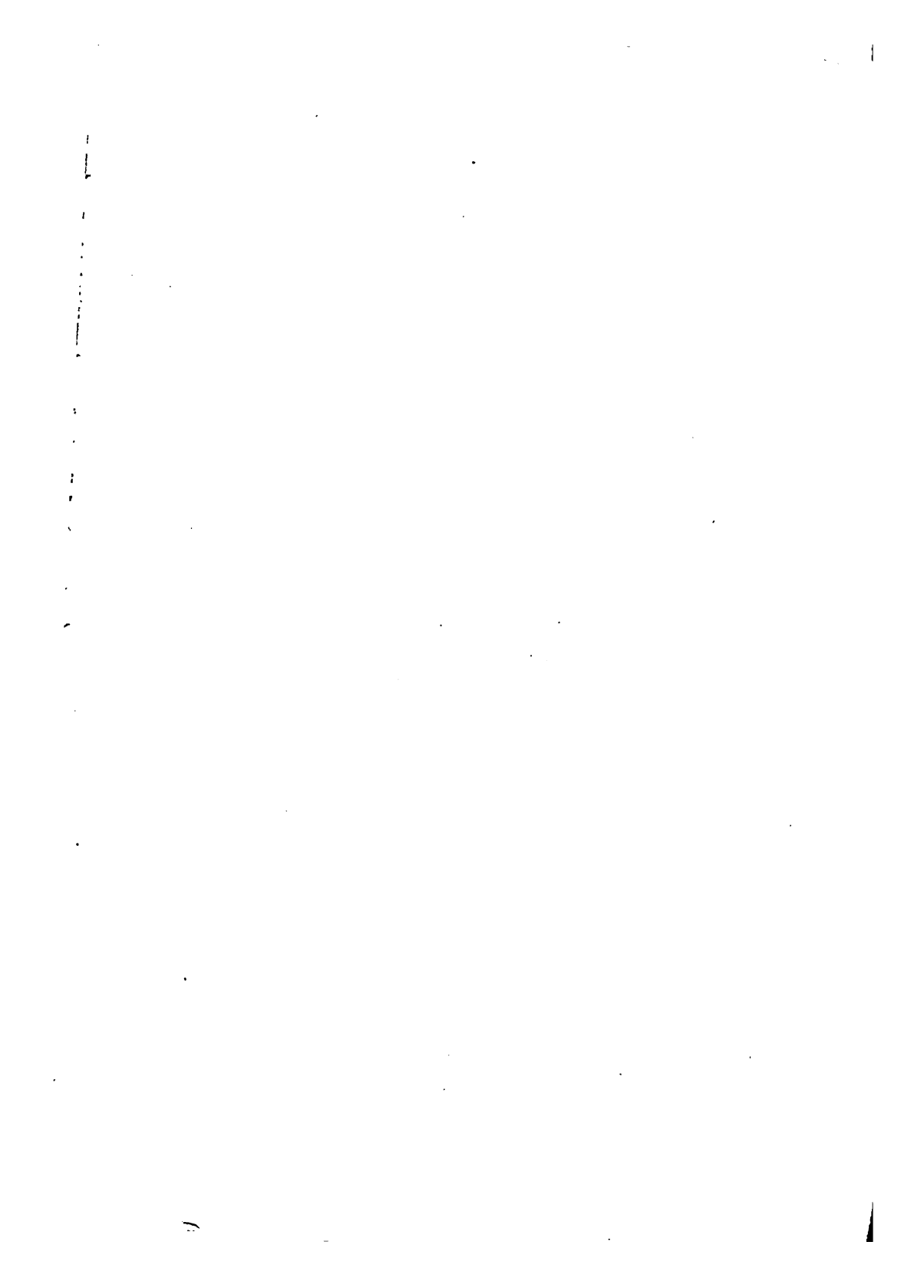
OTHER EDUCATIONAL WORK OF THE LIBRARY

In 1904 a new assistant, Miss Alice O'Brien, a graduate of Boston University, was appointed to take charge of the children's room and of the special work of visiting the schools in the interest of the library. Short informal talks on the use of the library were also given by the librarian and the new assistant in the grammar schools of the city, exclusive of the primary grades. The school board, at the suggestion of the trustees, appointed a committee of three to confer with a special committee of the library for the promotion of this form of co-operation. The success of the movement exceeded all expectations. Not only were the talks welcome to the pupils in the school-rooms, but they led to a marked increase in their attendance at the children's room in the library and in the circulation of the juvenile books. In 1905 the first instalment of books was sent to St. Mary's parochial school, and later to St. Peter's, St. Paul's, and the French school of Notre Dame de Pitié. In 1906 the librarian, by special request, gave a talk before the girls of the Gilman private school.

A new plan of co-operation with the schools was begun in 1906 with such satisfactory results that it was repeated in 1907 and 1908. By arrangement with the superintendent of schools, Mr. William C. Bates, and the principals of the grammar schools, all the pupils of the ninth grade came to the library for instruction by the librarian and the children's librarian in the use of the card catalogue and of reference works, and for an



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inspection of all parts of the library itself. These visits extended from three to six weeks, averaging four each week, and lasting an hour and a half each. Following the public schools came the parochial and the private schools. Each class was accompanied by one or more teachers. The place of meeting was the local history room. In showing the pupils about the building the librarian was assisted by the children's librarian, the reference librarian, and by others, and the connection of the library with the schools and the local stations was explained by the local librarian in her room at the end of the stack. By request of the teachers the next visits will be made early in the school year, in order that the instruction given at the library may be enforced by practice in the schools. The obvious success of this plan should lead to its recognition as a permanent feature of the co-operation between the library and the schools; and it should be extended to include more special instruction in the use of the library, both by visits of other grades than the ninth, and by visits of the librarian or the children's librarian to the schools, for short talks in small groups.

An interesting exhibit of bookbinding processes and materials, prepared by the Newark public library, was shown in the Cambridge room for the three weeks following October 24, 1906. By arrangement with the superintendent of schools two delegates from each grammar school visited the library for instruction by the librarian in the ordinary processes of bookbinding, with the exhibit as an object lesson, on which they were to make a report to their schools. By arrangement with the principal of the Rindge Manual Training school, Mr. Charles H. Morse, three afternoons were set aside for his pupils to inspect the exhibit under the guidance of the librarian.

Co-operation with the high schools has been thus far confined chiefly to the Rindge Manual Training school. As early as 1900 and 1901, however, informal lectures were given by Miss Russell, the assistant librarian, to the pupils of the Latin school, on the use of books, particularly those in the reference room. At the request of the English department of the former school, a list of "Fifty standard books for older boys" was issued in the Bulletin for December, 1907, and in a separate

edition of 500 copies for school use. Condensed from a longer list of 100 books, prepared chiefly by Mr. William O. Hubbard, instructor in the same department, it was designed to supplement a similar list of "Fifty recent books for older boys," which appeared in the Bulletin of the September before. At the further request of Mr. Hubbard the library has established in the school a deposit collection of one hundred books, for use by the pupils of his classes in English and under his special supervision.

During the fall of 1907 the special list of books on "Foundry practice and pattern making," which was prepared for Mr. Richard H. Gallagher, two years ago, has been revised to date and copies in duplicate distributed to all the pupils of the school who were to use it. In order to show the application of this special list to the methods of finding material in the library on any subject, especially when all the books bearing directly on the subject happened to be out, the librarian gave brief talks before Mr. Gallagher's and also before Mr. J. G. Telfer's classes. This new plan of co-operation has received the cordial approval of the principal of the school, Mr. John W. Wood, Jr., as well as of the superintendent of schools.

In sundry other ways which space cannot be taken here to describe, the library from time to time furnishes entertainment and instruction for children and those of larger growth; as, for instance, in the exhibitions of photographs loaned by the Library Art Club, in which this library holds membership. Three of these exhibitions were given in the Cambridge room in 1898, and they have been continued at intervals of about six weeks to the present time.

The work thus done for the children of the city, in connection with their training in the schools and in the reading room dedicated to their use at the library, by no means indicates the full value of the institution as a part of our educational system. Its scope is broader and its clientage larger than those of the public schools. No institution supported by the money of the people is more democratic, in the best sense of the term. It is not only a supplementary department of every school, public or private, in the city, from the lowest grade to the highest,—

a school for the teachers as well as the pupils, — but its advantages are free to every man, woman, and child who can read. It is the high school for those who cannot continue their studies beyond the grammar school, and for those of mature age who had few opportunities for school training in their early years. It is the evening school, open every day, Sundays not excepted, for those who cannot attend the regular evening schools on account of their fixed hours and courses of study. It is the industrial school for the working man who has no other means of self-culture in his special craft. Its advantages are eminently for those who are least able to get them elsewhere, — who can buy few books and take few periodicals, but are here supplied with both in abundance; yet the cost of it is paid largely by those who are least dependent upon its resources.

LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS

In 1875 the library was arranged by subjects, and a catalogue was published, which was followed by five supplements, and these by six bulletins. The library had increased, meanwhile, from seven to eighteen thousand volumes; and in 1885 the need of a new catalogue had become imperative. An additional appropriation of two thousand dollars was granted, in 1886, for this purpose, and the new catalogue was issued in 1887. A separate list of children's books was prepared early in 1888. As this embraced all the juvenile books of the library, with other books especially useful and instructive to young people, it was found to be of great service.

In 1891 a supplementary catalogue was printed, and a catalogue of foreign books was added.

Since January, 1896, a monthly Bulletin has been issued for gratuitous circulation, in which classified lists of additions to the library are given, with brief descriptive and critical notes upon the more important books. The plan of this useful periodical was originated and developed by Mr. Gifford, and was one of his most valuable services to the library. It met with general favor from the first, and has attracted much attention from librarians elsewhere throughout the country.

Special reading lists have been appended to the Bulletins from time to time, with other matter likely to be suggestive and helpful to teachers, students, and readers, particularly the young. Among the more notable of these lists was the Supplement on "Books, pamphlets, etc., relating to Cambridge," the contribution from the library to the commemoration, by the Cambridge Historical Society, of the two hundred seventy-fifth anniversary of the settlement of the city, December 21, 1905. Other lists were: "Reading list on Benjamin Franklin," in connection with the two hundredth anniversary of his birth, for January, 1906; "List of books on Birds"; "List of books on Forestry and Trees"; "List of books on Gardening"; and "Fifty recent books for older girls," prepared for pupils of the high schools. This last list and those for boys mentioned above were designed to bridge over the gap between the juvenile and the adult age, the books being placed on special shelves in the main delivery room, rather than in the children's room.

A "Bibliography of Thomas Wentworth Higginson" was issued in commemoration of his eighty-third birthday, December 22, 1906, and in recognition of his long service of fourteen years (1889-1903) as trustee of the library. The pamphlet fills 48 pages, in the same form as the Bulletin, and an edition of 800 copies was printed. The work was based upon a chronological note-book of Colonel Higginson's, and for its preparation Mrs. Winifred (Smith) Mather, first assistant cataloguer, and Miss Eva G. Moore, his private secretary, deserve chief credit. In the arrangement of its material and in the omission of all library numbers, it differs from all our previous lists, and it represents the most ambitious work the library has ever undertaken. High praise of its completeness and accuracy has come, not only from Colonel Higginson himself, but also from critics of recognized authority.

A similar "Bibliography of William James Rolfe" was printed as a testimonial in honor of his eightieth birthday, December 10, 1907. In this instance, as in the other, the subject of the bibliography furnished his own material, and Miss Russell, the assistant librarian, and Miss Eva Ferris

Magee, of the cataloguing staff, under his direction, adapted it to the form of the Bulletin.

A less exhaustive bibliography, entitled a "Selected list of books and periodical literature relating to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow," was issued in advance of the celebration of the centenary of the poet's birthday, which was held under the auspices of the Cambridge Historical Society, February 27, 1907. Besides appearing in the Bulletin for that month, this bibliography was also issued in a separate edition of 2000 copies for school and general use, to which was appended a special section for young readers. The bibliography is interesting also as showing the extent and value of the special collection of books by and about Longfellow in the Memorial room.

In connection with the celebration of the centenary of the birth of Louis Agassiz, held May 27, 1907, under the auspices of the Cambridge Historical Society, the contribution of the library was a "Selected list of books and periodical literature relating to Agassiz." This was issued not only in the Bulletin of that month, but also in a separate edition, which was sent out to all the teachers of the city.

In 1899 a "Catalogue of English Fiction" was printed; and some of the facts concerning the circulation of that department of the central library may be of interest. In 1900 the percentage of fiction circulated, including that in the children's room, was 72 per cent; in 1903 it was only 66; in 1904, only 61. Since that date the adult and the juvenile circulation have been calculated separately, with the following results: in 1905 the percentage for adults was 55, and for children 83; in 1906, for adults 55, for children 78; in 1907, for adults 55, for children 78. The circulation in the branch libraries has not been classified as yet.

All the work on the Bulletins, the special lists, bibliographies, etc., has been under the personal charge of Miss Etta L. Russell, to whom during the last thirty years the library has been indebted in very many other ways for invaluable service and supervision not mentioned in this historical sketch.

THE CAMBRIDGE MEMORIAL ROOM

The "Cambridge Memorial Room" is already a considerable library in itself, and is fast growing in value and attractiveness. Fifteen years ago, more than a hundred and fifty native or resident authors were represented on its shelves. The complete works of many of these are in the collection, including not a few rare first editions. Some of the books are enriched with autographs or manuscript notes by author or editor.

Of seventy-nine volumes relating to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, seventy are his own works, three are selections therefrom, and six are biographical. James Russell Lowell is represented by thirty volumes. Among these is an interleaved copy of Worcester's Dictionary, with his name and the date, November 24, 1847, and many manuscript notes from his pen. Oliver Wendell Holmes has eighteen volumes, including his first collection of poems, published anonymously.

Among manuscript rarities are a Diary by Margaret Fuller Ossoli, the "Letters given by the English Longfellow Memorial to the Longfellow Memorial Association of Cambridge," with the autographs of eminent Englishmen interested in obtaining the bust of the poet for Westminster Abbey; and the "Cambridge Light Infantry Orderly Book," of 1815, contributed by Lucius R. Paige. There are also important manuscripts by Edward Everett, James Russell Lowell, Colonel Higginson (a portion of his "Cheerful Yesterdays"), and other authors; together with a letter written by George Washington, a letter signed by Thomas Jefferson, and other interesting autographs. Most of these manuscripts and autographs were collected by Colonel Higginson, to whom the Memorial room is in other respects greatly indebted.

This room has also become a museum of souvenirs and relics connected with local history, some of which are of much antiquarian or artistic interest. A large glass case enshrines the regimental flag presented to the library by the Thirty-eighth Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, to whom it was given by Cambridge women in January, 1864; and on

the wall above one of the cabinets of curios is the drum of the Third Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, Company C, which was first used on April 17, 1861, by the first body of men to enlist in the defence of the Union.

BEQUESTS AND GIFTS

Aside from the contributions to the Memorial room, the library has had many valuable gifts in money and books from Cambridge people. In the year 1873, Isaac Fay, a public-spirited citizen, bequeathed to the library \$1000, the income of which was to be expended in the purchase of books. This legacy was the only one of the kind the library had received up to the year 1889. In June of that year it received a gift, by will, of \$2000, from the late Daniel P. Cummings, of East Cambridge, the annual income of which was to be expended in the purchase of non-sectarian books.

Outside of the annual appropriation of the city (far too small a sum for the increasing needs of the library), only the income (\$120) of these two donations was available for the purchase of books in 1889. The approaching removal of the library from its cramped and insufficient quarters in the Masonic building to the building presented to the city by Mr. Rindge seemed to many of our citizens a suitable time to make it more what a public library ought to be, and at the same time express in what would seem a most suitable and appropriate manner our appreciation of Mr. Rindge's conspicuous liberality.

Largely through the efforts of Colonel Higginson and a few others, such a movement was set on foot. In the board of trustees, February 25, 1889, and by a previous report to the board a few days before, Colonel Higginson suggested the advisability of holding a public meeting for the purpose of making an especial appeal to the Cambridge community, in behalf of the library, for contributions of books, especially reference books, sets of periodicals, and works in foreign languages, and also subscriptions for a permanent fund and for immediate outlay. The trustees voted to call such a meet-

ing of the citizens March 9, 1889, when about eighty persons were present. At a subsequent meeting, April 1, 1889, a committee was appointed to secure the necessary funds, and through its efforts a total of about ten thousand dollars was collected. By vote of the trustees the sum of five thousand dollars was made a permanent fund for the purchase of books, and the remainder was expended at once for the same purpose.

Among the other important gifts of books received up to 1900 were about five hundred volumes, chiefly historical, from Dr. Denman W. Ross; more than two thousand volumes (with a collection of paintings, engravings, photographs, etc.) from the estate of Mrs. Anna L. Möring; the valuable medical library of Dr. Morrill Wyman, comprising more than four thousand volumes; about five hundred volumes from the estate of Professor E. W. Gurney; 177 volumes from the medical library of Dr. C. E. Vaughan; more than five hundred volumes from Miss Mary Woodman, as a gift from the estate of her father, the late Cyrus Woodman; and from Mrs. James Barr Ames a set of the publications of the Egypt Exploration Fund. From Dr. B. A. Gould the library received 226 volumes; from Hon. Leopold Morse, 164 volumes; from Dr. A. P. Peabody, 147 volumes, and 95 from his heirs; from Colonel Higginson, 144 volumes; from Dr. W. J. Rolfe, 63 volumes; from Miss Charlotte M. Harris, 47 volumes; from Mrs. Harriet W. Sewall, 42 volumes; from John Bartlett, 35 volumes; and from Mrs. M. E. MacKaye, 25 volumes. It may be added that down to the present time (1908) Colonel Higginson has given to the library 443 volumes, 170 pamphlets, and 17 manuscripts; Dr. Rolfe has given 272 volumes; and Dr. Eugene A. McCarthy has given 50 volumes. These and all other gifts of books and pamphlets are duly entered in the annual reports of the trustees of the library.

The most valuable donation in 1901 came from Nathaniel Cushing Nash, of Cambridge, consisting of a costly collection of art works, of which etchings form the most important part. The library also received from Dr. Augustus P. Clarke, a trustee under the will of Lucius R. Paige, the bequest of a collection of manuscripts, letters, etc., chiefly relating to the

history of Cambridge. The Hannah Winthrop chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution loaned the library for an indefinite period a set of the lineage books of the society, and these were placed in our genealogical library.

In December, 1902, by a bequest from Miss Abigail L. Prentiss, the library received the sum of \$7350.39 with which to establish the "William E. Saunders Alcove" in memory of her nephew. By vote of the trustees, the southern end of the local history room was so designated, and a bronze tablet has been placed there to commemorate the gift. Nearly all the fund has been invested in bonds of the city of Cambridge, and the income therefrom will probably suffice to furnish all the genealogies and local histories that the library will need. In 1905 a portrait of William E. Saunders was presented to the library by George S. and Francis E. Saunders, and hung at their request in the Saunders alcove.

Of the gifts of books in 1904 the most considerable came from the estate of James Chaplin Fisk, including some fine editions of the standard English poets and a set of Winsor's "Narrative History of America."

In 1905 a bequest of five thousand dollars, in accordance with the will of the late James A. Woolson, became available. The income of this fund has been devoted to the purchase of music scores and works on music, which have been submitted for approval (as the terms of the will required) to the daughter of the donor, Eda A. Woolson, now Mrs. Byron S. Hurlbut. The Wyman collection of medical books having been loaned, in April, 1904, to the Boston Medical Library, the room in which it had been kept became available for another purpose; and it has been proposed to make it an art and music room, open at special hours, under the care of an attendant.

Of the gifts received by the library in 1905 the most notable is that from the late Joel B. Orne of the Records of the Cambridgeport *Philological* Society, in three volumes, from 1840 to 1848, the italicized word being defined by Dr. William W. Wellington, a prominent member of the society, as "a compound of two Greek and Latin words signifying 'love of reading.'"

The retirement from the board of trustees of Thomas Wentworth Higginson in 1903, after a service of fourteen years, during which he gave freely to the city the results of his intimate acquaintance with literature and libraries, and his discriminating taste in books, seemed to call for acknowledgment on the part of his associates. Accordingly, in grateful recognition of the library's indebtedness to him, an alcove in the inner Cambridge room was set apart and designated the "Thomas Wentworth Higginson Alcove." The library is further indebted to Colonel Higginson for an excellent photograph of himself, which has been given a place in this alcove.

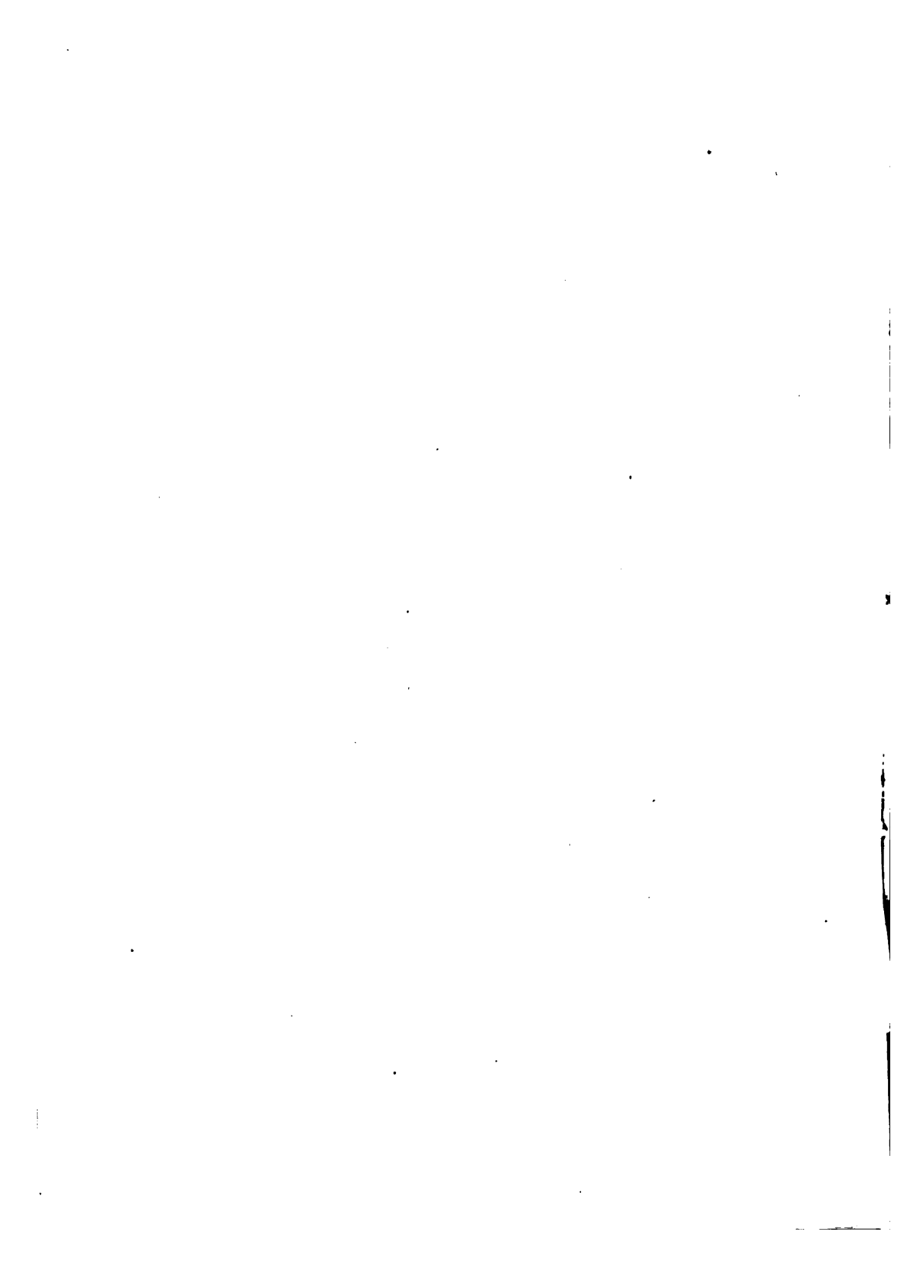
BRANCH LIBRARIES

In 1896 the trustees advised the establishment of branch libraries to be located in East Cambridge, Cambridgeport, and North Cambridge. In 1897 (June 28) the East Cambridge branch was opened at No. 20 Second street, with John J. Henderson as custodian; and it was so successful that it outgrew its limited quarters in its first year, during which the circulation amounted to 17,697 volumes. This fell off somewhat the next year, its growth having been apparently checked from lack of room and inadequate equipment. When an increased appropriation enabled the trustees to remove it, in 1901, to ampler and more attractive quarters, on the second floor of the East Cambridge Police Station on Fourth street, its popularity rapidly increased. In 1902 the circulation was 18,452, but in 1904 it had increased to 35,057. In 1907 it was 46,899. In 1903 Miss Mary A. Curtis was appointed custodian, in place of Mr. Henderson, who had resigned; and to her administrative ability, tact, and acquaintance with the special needs of her community is due a large share of the popularity of this branch library.

In 1906 (November 5) the North Cambridge branch library was established in the remodelled Police Station No. 4. Its location corresponds to that of the branch library in East Cambridge, but its newer and more attractive quarters contributed much to its popularity, the circulation for the first complete



EAST CAMBRIDGE BRANCH LIBRARY



year being 50,326, though the whole number of volumes in the branch library was only 1698. The custodian is Miss Ellen M. Hayes, whose previous experience of four years at the delivery desk of the central library assured success in the development of the new branch. The number of books in the East Cambridge branch for 1907 was 2700. In both of these branches the chief attendance has been juvenile, and the crowding of the children has inevitably affected the attendance of adults.

DEPOSIT STATIONS

Charitable and other organizations have from the first sought from the library reading matter as an aid to their plans of work and entertainment. Among the earliest to co-operate with the library were the Young Women's Christian Association and the East End Christian Union, both starting this work in 1896, and ten years later were added the Neighborhood House, 79 Moore street, and the Margaret Fuller House, 71 Cherry street. To these places were sent deposits of popular books in lots of fifty or more, and for periods varying from two months to a whole season. In 1907 three other organizations availed themselves of the privilege of a deposit station: the St. John's Literary Institute, in East Cambridge, the St. Mary's Reading Circle, and the Sunday School of the Prospect Street Congregational Church. In 1908 the Mothers' Club connected with the Houghton School kindergarten and the Riverside Alliance, located near the Riverside Press, were granted requests for small collections of books; the Young Men's Christian Association renewed its request for the same privilege, after a lapse of some years; and the Playgrounds Committee of the city is to place small deposits of books at six stations during the coming summer. All these deposit stations have opened new fields of work which promise to fill long-felt needs.

Two city organizations, the Hook and Ladder No. 4 and Engine No. 6 became, in 1906, depositories of small collections of twelve books each, to be exchanged at the wish of the members. This field of work with the fire stations could

be developed with good results, and extended to the police stations, if only more money were available for its special needs and requirements.

TRAVELING LIBRARIES

A new feature of the work of the library, initiated in the autumn of 1904, was that of "traveling libraries." For the convenience of readers at a distance from the central library local delivery stations, where books could be received and returned, had been established in ten or more parts of the city several years earlier. In all these stations lots of books were deposited, numbering at first fifty volumes each, evenly divided between fiction and non-fiction, and comprising a representative selection of popular books on all subjects. After these lots have run their course at their respective stations, they are exchanged and "travel" to other stations. Each lot is separate from the books sent through the local delivery, and is separately charged on slips, without cards, except for identification. The success of the plan was immediate and remarkable. The itinerant libraries proved to meet, in part at least, a long-felt want. The next year (1905) the number of books in most of them was increased to seventy-five, and it was decided to extend the privilege to private clubs and associations, as distinguished from the local stations. This feature of the plan was heartily welcomed in various parts of the city. In May of that year was granted the application of the Douglas Club, of North Cambridge, since called the Iroquois Club, for a new traveling library; a year later the Prospect Union, occupying the building of the old Dana library, and the Catholic Union, with rooms at 631 Massachusetts avenue, were added. All three were men's clubs, and to each was assigned a new and smaller traveling library of twenty-five books. In the same year the Cambridge Social Union, 42 Brattle street, received the regular traveling libraries which had run their course at the local stations.

In January, 1905, a traveling library of another kind was placed in the reading room of the central library, at the request of the State Federation of Women's Clubs and the



NORTH CAMBRIDGE BRANCH LIBRARY

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Cambridge Anti-Tuberculosis Association. It is called the "Traveling Health Library," and the collection of books is a duplicate of the one owned by the State Federation and sent to various cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth. Later it was sent to the East Cambridge branch library, to the Cambridge School of Nursing, and to the exhibit of the local Anti-Tuberculosis Association, held in January, 1908.

OLD HOME WEEK AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS

The part taken by the library in the celebration of "Old Home Week," in 1907, was one of the noteworthy events of the year. By invitation of the present trustees and at their personal expense, a reunion of former trustees and members of the library staff was held in the local history and the trustees' rooms, on Tuesday afternoon, July 30, from four to six o'clock. Invitations to the number of two hundred were sent out, including also the officials of the city government and the clergy. The committee on arrangements consisted of the president, Dr. Eugene A. McCarthy, and Messrs. Edward P. Collier and Edward C. Wheeler, the last of whom had charge of the entertainment for the guests. The trustees, as hosts, were assisted by the librarian and members of the staff, and the occasion was enjoyed by all present. During the whole week, from July 28 to August 3, assistants were in special attendance to show visitors about the building. A circulation chart (see Appendix IV) was prepared for the occasion, showing in figures and heavy black lines the growth of the library from 1859, the first full year, down to the latest full year, 1907. A display of music scores, as purchased from the city appropriation and from the income of the James A. Woolson fund, was made in the delivery room, in order that visitors might better see the growth of this department, especially during the two previous years.

Besides the issue of the special Longfellow list, described above, the library took an important part in the Longfellow centenary celebration by its exhibit of books, manuscripts, portraits, curios, and other material sent to it from Craigie House, from Harvard College library, and from local and dis-

tant collectors and publishers, in addition to its own collection ; and also by its custody of the exhibit during the week of its stay in the Cambridge room, from February 25 to March 4. This exhibit proved to be the most valuable and interesting of its kind ever held in Cambridge.

In order to arouse still further the interest of the school children in the Longfellow centenary, the librarian visited the grammar schools of the city, public and parochial, during the week preceding the celebration, and gave, where convenient, brief talks to the pupils of the ninth grades.

The library has also granted the request of the Cambridge Historical Society to be allowed the use of the trustees' room for the meetings of its council ; and the Cambridge room has been made the depository of their books, pamphlets, and other material. In 1907 Mr. Ayer, the librarian, became curator of the society. Some of the meetings of the Hannah Winthrop chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution have been held in the trustees' room, as were the meetings of the special committee in charge of the Longfellow celebration.

RECENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE STAFF

The library has been fortunate in the long and efficient service of several of the present members of its staff. The longest in service is Miss Russell, the assistant librarian, who began as desk assistant in 1877, and whose intimate association with the history of the library has had frequent mention. Next in length of service is Miss Charlotte E. Stewart, whose connection of sixteen years began as substitute in 1892, and whose chief charge has been the local and school delivery. After Miss Stewart came, in 1895, Miss Harriet D. Lochman, who has served the library for thirteen years, during the last ten of which she has been in charge of the main delivery desk. The list of all the members of the staff, past and present, with their positions and terms of service, is given in Appendix IX.

The appointment of Alfred E. Thayer, in November, 1905, to a position in the First National Bank of West Newton deprived the library of one of its most faithful and energetic workers, after a continuous service of eight years. To his

skill with the camera the library owes the best photograph of the exterior of the building as it now is, which forms the frontispiece of this volume. To his place was appointed, in December, 1905, Roy Le Barron Perkins, whose previous experience in the library had covered more than three years.

The resignation of Mrs. Winifred (Smith) Mather, cataloguer, took effect January 1, 1907, after a long and valuable service of about fifteen years in various departments of the library, due recognition of which was given by vote of the trustees. Her work upon the Higginson bibliography, as above mentioned, showed the mental alertness, accuracy, and thoroughness that had characterized her entire experience. Her place has been well taken by the promotion of Miss Eva Ferris Magee, assistant cataloguer, whose work has been transferred, in part, to Miss Katharine A. O'Donnell, who has also served as the librarian's clerk. In place of Miss Alice O'Brien, who resigned, October 1, 1907, to accept a business position in Boston, after a service of three years, Miss Cairn D. Hawkes was chosen children's librarian. Like Miss O'Brien, Miss Hawkes is a graduate of Boston University; and she has had a library training at Simmons College, an experience there as assistant librarian, and also as custodian of a branch of the Milton public library, and an extended experience in teaching.

In the death of Miss L. Edna Brooks, November 28, 1907, the library lost the services of one of its most efficient and valuable assistants. During the first half of her connection of six years with the library Miss Brooks had been employed as general assistant, and during the second half she was reference librarian. No assistant so completely won the esteem and respect of the general public as Miss Brooks, and none could have better fulfilled the exacting demands of her important position. Her memory will long be cherished by all her associates in the library, as well as by the public at large.

After a temporary service of three months by Miss Theresa L. Burke, of the regular staff, Miss Brooks was succeeded by Miss Ruth A. Sibley, a graduate of Tufts College in 1906 and of the library school of Simmons College in 1907, librarian of the Leicester (Mass.) public library in the summer of 1907,

and assistant librarian of the art department of Wellesley College from that time until March, 1908, when she came to this library as the result of an examination in which seven candidates competed for the position.

The first examination of this kind was held under Mr. Gifford's administration in April, 1896, when out of twelve applicants for the position of assistant four passed, and their names were accordingly placed on the list of eligible candidates. The results of this examination were sufficiently satisfactory to warrant a continuance of the practice. Of the many applicants for situations in the library, the majority are unknown to the trustees and the librarian, and a test of some kind is necessary to furnish at least a basis for judging of their comparative merits. A second examination was held in October, 1897, when out of fourteen applicants six passed; and of these six there were two who had already passed the examination in 1896. The examination papers of 1897 and of December, 1905, both for general assistant, were printed in the annual reports of the trustees for those years.

THE CITY AND THE LIBRARY

Reference has already been made (pages 21-23) to the difficulties and discouragements under which the early librarians labored before the removal to the new building, the urgent necessity for which had been forcibly set forth for years in the reports of the trustees and the librarian. But "history repeats itself" in this instance, as in so many others. The annual reports for the last twenty years are a continuous record of inadequate support on the part of the city council, and of persistent efforts on the part of the trustees and the library staff to make the best of the insufficient income. The situation is well summarized in the report for 1907:—

"It ought not to be necessary to impress upon the city council that a public library in this community is not, as some seem to think, a luxury, but it is, on the contrary, a very necessary instrument of education, supplementing and broadening the work of the public school. Moreover, its activities are not limited by age or intellectual condition. It is for the benefit

of all the people every day in the year. It would seem, therefore, that an enlightened public opinion would demand for such an institution a reasonably adequate support. Such a support has not, in the judgment of the trustees, been accorded to the Cambridge public library by the city council. In recent years, approximately not more than half the amount needed for the reasonable support of the library has been appropriated for its use. Under such conditions, and in the notable absence of private benefactions, it is inevitable that the growth of the library must suffer and its influence in the community eventually wane. A careful reading of the librarian's report will disclose the fact that important departments of the library's work are even now retrograding. After investigation the trustees have arrived at the conclusion that this is due solely to insufficient support. Therefore, as advocates of the citizens who need the advantages which a public library is supposed to supply, the trustees are bound to protest against a policy which can only result in discredit to the library and to the city itself."

The librarian, in his report, after referring to the fact that the central library had "suffered a serious cut in its appropriation for general expenses, as compared with that of the previous year," remarks:—

"The reduction was felt in various important ways. Fewer books of all kinds were bought for the central library. The number of duplicates of new and popular books, upon which so largely depends the increase in circulation, was diminished by about one third. The traveling libraries have come to a standstill, or worse, are going backward, replenishment being possible only to a small extent. Comparatively few additions have been made to the school duplicate collection, and many of the books are becoming soiled and worn from continued use. . . . The appropriation for salaries for the central library being less than was actually needed to maintain the work of the library on its present basis, a considerable retrenchment was effected, beginning May 1, by dispensing with the week-day service of the evening attendants, by closing the whole library at 9 P. M., instead of at 10 P. M., by stopping the

circulation of books from the children's room at 6 P. M., and by rearranging the hours for the regular assistants, in order to meet these changes. The service of the stack-boys was also much reduced, to the detriment of the delivery department and to the annoyance of the public."

It is important also to bear in mind that the cost of most books has been increased, during the last few years, by the so-called "net" system of prices which has been enforced by the publishers of the country. Under this system libraries have been the chief sufferers. With the same money fewer books can be bought, and the purchasing power of each appropriation for books is diminished by about one-third.

For more than ten years there had been no increase in the appropriation for the library proportional to the increase in circulation and the development in its various lines of work. In 1897 the appropriation was \$19,000, as it was in 1898, 1900, and 1901. In 1899 it was increased to \$20,000; but in 1902 it was cut down to \$18,000, and remained at that figure for the next two years. In 1905 it was \$20,700; in 1906, \$21,715; in 1907, \$21,500; and in 1908, \$21,950. The small appropriations for the branch libraries from 1900 to 1908 are left out of the account, since in the aggregate they were inadequate for the local demands; and, aside from this, all labor connected with the purchase and cataloguing of books for the branches is done at the central library, adding to the general expenses there.

In 1897 there were about 53,000 books in the library, and the circulation was 162,704 volumes; in 1907 the books numbered about 78,000, and the circulation was 283,688 volumes. The increase in both added materially to the labor and expense of the library, to say nothing of the demands due to the growth of its other departments.

The increase in the number of books during this period, however, was by no means what it should have been. The purchase of books was the only important item of expense in which the trustees could make any material reduction under their straitened circumstances. Other general expenses necessarily increased from year to year, and little could be saved by

such changes in the service as are mentioned in the extract from the annual report of 1907 above. In 1897 the number of books bought was 4357, but in the next six years it fell off to 3635, 3847, 4251, 3796, 3247, and 4102. The net gain to the library was diminished by the large number of books annually worn out and condemned; the numbers for the seven years (1897-1903) being 2704, 2598, 1595, 1411, 1883, 1608, 2725, or 14,524 in all, while only 27,235 volumes were purchased. In 1904, 4632 books were bought, and 1635 condemned; in 1905 the numbers were 6317 and 1828; in 1906 they were 5791 and 1613; and in 1907 they were 6588 (including those for the branches) and 1837. In 1907 there were 2700 volumes in the East Cambridge branch (867 added that year, and 552 condemned), and in the North Cambridge branch 1698 (1315 added in the year, and nine condemned), most of the books in the branches being duplicates of those in the central library. The number in the central library for 1907 was 73,555. If the increase for the ten years had been normal, the number would have been at least a hundred thousand.

It would take too much space to refer to all the ways in which the work of the library has been hampered and embarrassed by the lack of funds for the increase of the staff. The labor becomes greater and greater every year, while the laborers are too few for keeping up with it. They are overtaxed, and the patrons of the library are incommoded. The cataloguing department may serve as a single instance in point. The librarian says in his report for 1907: —

“ The work of this part of the service has been increased by the demands of the new branch in North Cambridge, all the books for which come to the central library for classification and cataloguing. A recognized part of the routine of this department is the cataloguing of all the books for the older branch library in East Cambridge. A special task has been the rearranging and cataloguing of all the books in the children's room of the central library, and of the East Cambridge branch, a task begun three years ago and finished this year. Two other separate tasks which have been in progress for

several years are approaching completion : the re-cataloguing of the books in foreign languages, of which French fiction, the largest section, is now re-numbered ; and the making of a duplicate catalogue of the books in the local history room. For both these groups special card cases have been provided. The former of these tasks has helped to diminish the old collection of books in the basement of the stack, which still remains available chiefly through the printed catalogue and its supplements."

The catalogue here mentioned is the old one printed in 1887, with the supplement of 1891. Applicants for many of the older books are subjected to vexatious inconvenience from the necessity of consulting these in addition to the more recent card catalogue, the completion of which, as the librarian explains, proceeds slowly on account of the pressure of other work in the department.

Even more to be regretted and more discreditable to the city authorities is the neglect of necessary repairs on the library building, to which attention has been called in the annual reports for the last seven years. It must suffice here to quote the latest reference to the subject, in the report for 1907. The librarian says : —

"The need of repairs on the library building became more and more urgent, in view of the fact that nothing had been done since the building was erected in 1889, until this year, with the exception of temporary repairs of leaks on the roof and the ceiling. With the aid of a special appropriation of \$400 the front steps of the main entrance have been reset and the masonry pointed. The unsightly condition of parts of the ceiling, the dryness of the finish of the woodwork, and the instability of the wooden beams of the delivery room, call for immediate attention." [The repairs on the steps were first urged in 1901.]

The trustees, after endorsing generally the recommendations suggested by the "experience and specialized skill" of the librarian, add their appeal to the city council thus : —

"Your special consideration, however, is asked to the part of the report which relates to the necessity of repairing the

library building. The completion of the pointing of the stone work and the painting of the window sashes ought not to be longer delayed. As these parts are exposed to the weather, deterioration is apt to be rapid. The unsightly appearance of the interior of the building was brought to your attention a year ago, but as no appropriation was made to put the walls and woodwork in proper condition, the defects are becoming more and more marked. The trustees believe that the city by accepting this building—the munificent gift of the late Frederick H. Rindge—is thereby under obligation to preserve it.”

Seven years earlier (in their report for 1900) the trustees had said :—

“For the original building, with the land on which it stands, and more than enough for all additions that it can ever need, we are indebted to the generosity of Mr. Rindge; and we are confident that the people of Cambridge will never grudge the comparatively small outlay required from time to time to continue the good work begun by him, and to keep the building and its equipment up to the standard established by his munificence.”

The task of the historian, if he is honest and faithful, is sometimes perplexing or disagreeable. The orator at a civic celebration should tell the truth, but it need not be the whole truth. On such an occasion he may dilate on achievement, progress, and success, with the slightest possible allusion, if any at all, to disappointment, failure, or reverses. The historian, on the other hand, must impartially record both classes of events, with their causes and results, whether good or bad. He should set down naught in malice, but he must not ignore or extenuate anything culpable or discreditable, nor hesitate to show where the responsibility for it belongs. He must give honor where honor is due, but not tacitly permit those to get it who do not deserve it.

The record of the Cambridge public library is generally admitted to have been honorable to the trustees and to the library staff. The extracts from official reports quoted above furnish ample evidence that its growth and prosperity under

the circumstances described have been remarkable ; and that they have not been greater — as they should have been — is shown to have been entirely due to inadequate financial support on the part of the city. The people have not understood the situation, partly because they never read annual reports, and partly because, through the judicious management of the insufficient income by the trustees, the personal interests of the people in the use of the library have apparently not suffered, though in reality they have suffered very materially. When in "hard times" a family with an income barely sufficient for its support finds that income diminishing while household expenses are increasing, it may manage to get along with no perceptible loss in social position ; but the family know and feel a difference at home which is not apparent to their friends and acquaintances. Just so a public library that has to make the best of reduced income — or virtually reduced because not increased in proportion to the growing necessities — may seem to be thoroughly prosperous, though in some respects it is stationary or deteriorating.

This is the predicament of our library at the present time, as indeed it has generally been for the past fifty years. The printed statistics of municipal expenditures show that the library is the only department for which the annual appropriations have so uniformly been far below the careful estimates of the amount imperatively needed for its proper support. Yet we are told that the city council cannot do more for the institution than it has done. If so, "'t is pity, and pity 't is 't is true" ; but if history must still repeat itself, and the library must still be limited to about half the income it ought to have — unless private generosity shall come to its aid — the trustees venture to hope that they and the library staff, by their persistent efforts to promote the progress and prosperity of the institution in spite of adverse conditions, may continue to justify the commendation it received at the close of the first half-century of its existence.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

1858-1908

On Wednesday evening, April 1, 1908, the Cambridge Public Library celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its establishment with appropriate exercises. The arrangements had been made by a committee of the board of trustees — Messrs. Edward C. Wheeler, chairman, Albert M. Barnes, John Buckley, and Dr. Eugene A. McCarthy. The main delivery room and reading room had been fitted up for the occasion as an audience hall, which was filled to its utmost capacity. The librarian, Mr. Clarence W. Ayer, and Messrs. William Taggard Piper and Edward P. Collier acted as a receiving committee. All the trustees were present except Dr. Rolfe, who was unable to attend.

The speakers on the occasion were Mr. Wheeler, who introduced Dr. McCarthy as the chairman of the evening; Mayor Walter C. Wardwell; Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson; Mr. William C. Bates, superintendent of schools; Mr. Sam Walter Foss, librarian of the Somerville public library; Mr. Horace G. Wadlin, librarian of the Boston public library; and Ex-Mayor Augustine J. Daly.

The musical part of the program was delightfully furnished by the Octavo Choral Club, whose services were secured gratuitously for the occasion through Mr. and Mrs. Edward P. Collier, the latter being one of its fourteen members.

PROGRAM

1. MUSIC OCTAVO CHORAL CLUB
 - (a) The Smiling Dawn *Handel*
 - (b) Behind the Lattice *Chadwick*
 - (c) Spring Chorus (from "Samson and Delilah") . *Saint-Saëns*
2. ADDRESS . . . HIS HONOR, MAYOR WALTER C. WARDWELL
3. ADDRESS THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON

4. MUSIC OCTAVO CHORAL CLUB
 (a) Through the House ("Midsummer Night's
 Dream" — Shakespeare) *Beach*
 (b) Morning is Nigh (A Bird Song — Strauss) . . . *Brown*
5. ADDRESS WILLIAM CLINTON BATES
6. POEM SAM WALTER FOSS
7. ADDRESS HORACE GREELEY WADLIN
8. ADDRESS AUGUSTINE JOHN DALY
9. MUSIC OCTAVO CHORAL CLUB
 (a) A Child's Day (from "Child's Garden of
 Verses" — Stevenson) *Carroll*
 (b) Lullaby *Brahms*

MEMBERSHIP OF THE OCTAVO CHORAL CLUB

Conductor — MRS. ELEANOR NELSON-BABSON

Accompanist — MRS. MYRTLE WILLIS MORSE

First Sopranos

MRS. W. JOHNSTON
 MRS. C. I. LINDSAY
 MISS HELENA MCALEER
 MISS AVA R. TRELOAR
 MISS LILLIAN WARREN

First Altos

MME. W. LAMARCHE
 MRS. C. R. NEAL
 MRS. C. W. MACDONALD
 MRS. W. H. SELLARS

Second Sopranos

MRS. E. P. COLLIER
 MRS. J. L. LOCKARY
 MRS. O. C. MOYER

Second Altos

MME. S. MARTEL
 MRS. J. S. MCLEOD

After the introduction by Mr. Wheeler, Dr. McCarthy, president of the board of trustees, opened the regular exercises of the evening as follows: —

"*Ladies and Gentlemen*,—Fifty years seems a long time, and in the life of an individual it may be so, bringing him often to the first touch of old age. But though this library counts fifty years to its credit, it is still in its youth and has yet to achieve the full measure of its usefulness. If the past can give assurance of the future, we of the present generation may take a satisfaction in the prospect which was denied to our predecessors of fifty years ago. They, indeed, must have been men of faith, 'believing where they could not prove'; and men of courage also, for, to quote the records, 'The City covenants and agrees forever to maintain the library.'

“To-day not so much of faith is required, for the usefulness of the library is constantly demonstrated ; but with its growth a greater courage is needed to meet the increased responsibilities of maintenance. It is our hope, as friends of the library, that this courage shall never fail, and as an assurance of its fulfilment the chief executive of the city has consented to address you. I need not tell him that he is among his friends. He is in his own house, and therefore always welcome.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, His Honor the Mayor.”

ADDRESS OF THE MAYOR

“*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,* — Like the public schools, our library is a great factor for the education and advancement of our people. A city with good schools, good libraries, reading rooms and appropriate and sufficient reading matter is a light unto itself, and, so long as these institutions are maintained at a proper standard of excellence, the prosperity of the community is assured.

“We are met to-night to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Cambridge Public Library.

“We learn that it had its origin in the Cambridge Athenæum, which was incorporated in 1849, and, later on, through the generosity of Edmund T. Dana, of Cambridge, a lot of land at the corner of Main and Pleasant streets was given to the city, upon which was erected a building which was open to the public in November, 1851, and was known as the Athenæum. In March, 1858, the Athenæum corporation sold its real estate to the city. The library was transferred to the city, and the city agreed ‘to contribute a sum not less than three hundred dollars per annum for the term of fifteen years for its support and increase, and to maintain it forever for the use of the inhabitants of Cambridge.’

“Those who are familiar with the history of the library need not be reminded by me to-night of its many changes. The old Athenæum became the City Hall, and the library was afterwards located in the stone building at the corner of Main street (now Massachusetts avenue) and Temple street, where

it remained until 1889, when it was moved into this splendid building.

"Until 1858 it was a private subscription library. In 1859 the circulation of the library was 5460, and until 1874 one dollar a year was charged each person who used the library. The circulation in 1873 was 12,566. In 1874, when the library became a free library, the circulation was 47,327, and that circulation has continued to increase until 1907, when the circulation was 283,688 volumes.

"It is evident by these figures that the work of the library has broadened more than its projectors ever dreamed, and to-day, as I have said, it is a most important factor for good in our community.

"The city has been fortunate in having on its board of trustees of the public library men who have been conspicuous in the business world, in the political world, and in the world of letters and art. These men have given freely of their time and ability, and have, as a consequence, placed and maintained the library on a high standard of excellence, and the citizens of Cambridge to-day deeply appreciate the work of these men.

"Under the direction of its librarians and their assistants, the plans of the trustees have been well carried out.

"Miss Caroline Frances Orne was librarian from 1858 to 1874, and is well remembered by many Cambridge people to-day.

"Miss Almira Leach Hayward was librarian from 1874 to 1894, and she died in the service.

"Miss Etta Lois Russell in 1894 and 1895 served as acting librarian, until William L. R. Gifford was appointed librarian in 1895, a position he held until 1904, when he was called to a very responsible position in a similar line of duty in the West.

"Again Miss Russell served as librarian between the time of Mr. Gifford's departure and the coming of the present librarian, Mr. Clarence Walter Ayer. In 1904 Mr. Ayer was appointed to this position which he now holds and is filling so acceptably to all of us.

"Like all city departments, the library has suffered from a lack of the necessary funds to carry on its work in the way

that is nearest the hearts of the trustees and the librarian. Our city is unable to make the library appropriations that are needed and should be granted to carry on the work of this department to the extent that it should be. This is so to-day, and it was so fifty years ago. Had it not been for private enterprise and for the generosity of some of our citizens, the work that has been accomplished could not have been.

"To Edmund T. Dana and his associates, who established this library, we are very much indebted; to other public-spirited citizens who, from time to time, contributed towards the establishment and support of the library, we are indebted.

"We can never forget the generosity of Frederick H. Rindge, who gave this beautiful building and the land surrounding it, the only conditions being that certain scriptural quotations should be on the wall, and that a portion of the land should be reserved for a playground for children and the young.

"I do believe that there is just as much public spirit among our citizens to-day as there ever was, and I appeal to such men and women as are proud of our city, and are interested in its prosperity and advancement,— I appeal to such people to be as generous and as public-spirited as were the men who have made this public library and its work, this beautiful building with its thousands of volumes, a possibility.

"We need a fund of such size that the board of trustees may be able to carry out their laudable ambitions. There should be such a fund that the board of trustees might be relieved of the necessity of appealing to the city government for many of its important requirements. I am very much surprised when I inquire into the matter to find that the library has but five trust funds from which to draw:—

1. The Citizens' Subscription fund of	\$5,500.00
2. The Cummings fund of	2,000.00
3. The Fay fund of	1,000.00
4. The William E. Saunders fund of	7,409.54
5. The James A. Woolson fund of	5,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$20,909.54

"It seems to me that we should have a fund, the income of which would amount to more than this total sum, and it does seem to me also that there should be to-day as much public spirit and civic pride among our citizens as there was in 1858, when this library was established, and I appeal to the people of Cambridge who have the best interests of our city at heart to do what they can to further the great work that is being performed by the board of trustees of the Cambridge Public Library."

In introducing Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Dr. McCarthy said : —

"While the library owes its origin and much of its sustenance to the liberality of the city, it must not be imagined that this institution as we know it to-day is the result of the simple fiat of the city fathers. Cambridge has been fortunate indeed in many things, but in none more so than in the character of her citizenship. Witness the long list of honorable names she has been able to associate with the growth of this library; and of these, to my mind, none deserves mention before that of the late and much lamented Governor, William E. Russell.

"As mayor of the city of Cambridge, William E. Russell did two things which shall ever deserve the gratitude of the friends of the library. By the inherent force of his personality and by those lovable qualities which endeared him to every citizen, he inspired the late Frederick H. Rindge to grant to the city of Cambridge this lot of land and to erect thereon this beautiful structure which we now enjoy. The name of Rindge as a munificent benefactor of the city shall not easily be forgotten, and with it should be associated that of Russell. But William E. Russell did more than inspire the gift of this building. With that clearness of vision which was so remarkable in a young man, he realized that the library should have a soul, some animating spirit that would make it capable of work equal to the historic and educational fame of Cambridge. It is no easy task to discover an architect of the spirit, an artist able to cast the highest intellectual ideals into practical mould.

"William E. Russell, however, accomplished this by interest-

ing in the work of the library one of our most distinguished citizens, one eminent as a soldier, a philanthropist, and an author, Thomas Wentworth Higginson. For a period of more than fifteen years Colonel Higginson labored to give vitality and character to this institution, creating a spirit and evolving an ideal that is and will continue to be the source of the library's success. To Thomas Wentworth Higginson, therefore, in a pre-eminent degree, we are indebted for the accomplishment of Governor Russell's designs. Without his work this building would be but stone and wood ; with it, every part is energized for the accomplishment of the greatest good. I cannot be insensible of the honor of presenting to a Cambridge audience our first citizen, Thomas Wentworth Higginson."

ADDRESS OF THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON

"Your kind invitation, Mr. Chairman, takes me back to what may be called one of the purest of earthly enjoyments — the liberal expenditure, for public use, of another man's money. Of that liberal expenditure, you have visible results in this building, in the original building near by of the Manual Training school, and more successfully and beautifully in the City Hall. Of these three, it is only the City Hall which is unchanged substantially outside — Heaven forbid that it should not at different times have undergone some changes inside — and certainly as spring comes on, we must all enjoy the beauty of the flower-garden that spreads before it.

"I am afraid I take pleasure in pointing out to admirers or newly-passing visitors to Cambridge, the beauty of that building, and I fear I don't always abstain from the vanity of hinting the fact that I am the only survivor of those who built it. That was certainly a most satisfactory and encouraging committee to work with ; and Governor Russell, although he was absorbed in his other duties and contributed but little directly, contributed everything indirectly by the prestige he gave to it, and it was through him we possessed our influence with the original giver.

"I had been accustomed — before I came, after many years' absence, to live again in Cambridge — my birthplace — to the

management of the Worcester public library, which was in some respects our guide in rearranging this, but differed greatly in situation. Any man could step in there easily, as it was directly in the heart of Worcester, which is a very concentrated city in its formation, as some of you know, — with its large workshops, half scientific institutions, close around the library. One incidental consequence was that it was subject to frequent visits in my time, from casual visitors, including the skilled mechanics of the city, who sometimes asked hard questions, such as puzzled the librarians. A man came to the library one day and asked for a book on 'cams.' Nobody could be more general in his knowledge than the librarian, Mr. Green, yet unfortunately, he had never happened to hear of any such things as 'cams,' and did not know whether they were wild beasts or otherwise. He received the question with the utmost courtesy, however, from the man who put it, and told him he had other business to finish, but if he would take a seat and read the morning papers, he would be with him presently. So the young man sat down and instantly the librarian ran at the greatest pace to the other end of the building, looked in the largest English dictionaries he could find, and there learned that there was actually such a word as 'cam,' and that the 'cam' has no relation to a camel, but is the 'projecting part of an eccentric wheel.' He immediately gathered the necessary books in his hands, came back to the man who had made the inquiry, placed an armful of books before him, and told him that there was not a single question about 'cams' which those books could not answer. So that man was made happy, and it suggested to me that we should be prepared for similar inquiries here.

"I remember our employing an especial teacher for some time in the first years of the new Cambridge library, to give instruction or answers on any mechanical matters, and placed together a varied supply of books on that class of subjects. We had this man on two evenings a week, I think, to be paid out of our limited stipend ; and he was to have a table opposite our mechanical text-books and answer all questions. He was one of the instructors in the Manual Training school over the

way. He kept it up, I think, over a month and had one or two only who applied to him during all that time. The fact was that in that, as in some other respects, the geographical arrangement of Cambridge made the city a difficult place in which to set a public library. It had not, like Worcester, one well-defined centre. Then again, there was the fact that the particular kind of work carried on at that time in East Cambridge and the more laborious parts of the city was not such as would be directly benefited by such a teacher; the putting together of furniture, for instance, did not require literary instruction. So much for that; we made our little blunders, but those themselves were interesting to us.

"I remember that when we opened the library first, our dear Miss Hayward, — to whom the older among us will still look back with deep affection, and whose tragic death came upon us in a moment and made us shudder, — I remember that Miss Hayward very seriously differed on some points from the new board when the library was moved here. She was very conscientious and very independent, and I remember that she, for instance, was very strongly opposed to opening the library on Sunday, Cambridge being one of the earliest to adopt that practice. It was not strange that she should be; it was comparatively an experiment, and she was strong in her convictions. An intimate friend of hers had just resigned her post as librarian rather than submit to such a thing; but Miss Hayward pursued what seemed to me, even from her point of view, very much the higher and nobler course. She said to herself, 'This library is to be opened Sunday. Who can tell how it will work at first? It may lead to disorder, to misuse of the books.' I don't approve of its being opened, but if it is, I consider it my Christian duty to be here and take charge of it'; and she never failed to do so. But I remember, for week after week, how the dear lady would bring her report up to me on Monday morning, with that half-concealed triumph which only saints can carry in their faces. I asked cheerfully, 'How many came?' and she said, 'Seven.' The next week, 'How many came?' 'There were eight, I think.' The next Sunday was a very rainy one and there happened to be six. She

explained the circumstances with a tinge of comfort in her face ; but I think even she lived to be converted to the fact that it was a means of usefulness, not an offence ; and this is now, I suppose, universally admitted.

“Then, again, there was another point from which she shrank — the giving of immediate access to books, even of reference books. Personal handling of books was then rarely practised in libraries, except perhaps with one solitary Webster's Dictionary that was too big to be lifted over the desk. At first we placed in the reading room a very moderate number of books, or what we considered as such, for free access — perhaps one thousand or twelve hundred, to be entirely confined to that room. They were in general books of a heavier class mentally and physically, not likely to be carried away. But it happened most unfortunately that during the first few months that we tried the experiment, Miss Hayward came to me with, I fear, a little gentle triumph and showed me a large and valuable illustrated medical book in which whole pages had been taken out, torn out by some medical student, without detection. I confess I shuddered a bit, yet as time went on there was not a single serious injury to another book, that I can recall, in that room, during my connection with the library.

“The self-respect of the people was appealed to and educated. More and more books were brought into the reading room, old and new books ; and when the building was enlarged, there was a room appropriated to a special class of books, namely, those on American history and genealogy. What touched my heart most was when a dear young friend of mine, Grace Reed (now Mrs. John Walden), whom many of you will remember, as she had charge especially of the children's books, urged again and again that these should be placed in a case by the delivery desk and the children given as free a use of them as any of the older people. They were worthy of it, and she would be responsible. We took that course, and all this large exposure of old and new books in the delivery room dates back to the time when Miss Reed secured that privilege for the children. Thus all our experience in the library was in the direction of increased confidence.

"Another trial I should have mentioned at the beginning, because it was the first of Miss Hayward's little solitudes under the change. I came in one morning while we were removing thither, and found the table in the other room covered with enormous piles of brown paper which was evidently new, just bought. 'What in the world were they for?' I asked her. She said, 'Of course, we shall have to have a fresh cover for every book that is in the library; we would not let them pass with these old covers.' 'My dear Miss Hayward, that is conflicting with our idea that the old practice of covering the books should be utterly abandoned.' She showed me books that had been bound and rebound until they were thoroughly discolored and damaged, and I compromised a little on a few of these. It was years before they went entirely without a cover, though now all admit that on the whole the paper covers make more dirt than they remove, and take too much from a library.

"So we had in that period our little joys and our little solitudes! The joys came soon in the donations of books that we began to receive, these being something entirely beyond our previous experience. Books began to come to us on a large scale, often from executors of large estates. We had, for instance, such a present as 2279 books from Mrs. Möring's estate. She was the daughter of Professor Beck, so well known in my college days, and so well remembered in the war times. Some of those still among us will recall the eagerness with which Professor Beck joined in the enlistment of soldiers, so that one of the Grand Army Corps bears his name; and he himself, it was reported, shed tears when it was decided by the examining officer that he was too old to enlist and go as a common soldier. These books were from his daughter's estate, and she gave also, only later, almost all these paintings around the walls. One of these, however, I rejoice to say, was the direct gift of Father Scully, whom I brought here once and whom we regarded as the strictest in discipline of the Catholic priests in Cambridge. He entered at once into the movements of the library, and of his own accord proffered this gift.

"Then, from Mr. Woodman came 427 volumes and from

Mr. Denman Ross 419, some of them costly and all valuable, when he was somewhat changing the work of his life from science to art, to which it is now devoted. We had 400 from Professor Gurney's library; Dr. Gould, the astronomer, gave us 226; Professor Goodwin gave 100 from the library of a college friend, which had been bequeathed to him. Then, among our citizens there were \$10,000 subscribed under the efficient leadership of Hon. James J. Myers, of which amount \$5000 was invested and the rest put into books. Mr. Houghton gave us publications of his own house to the value of \$1000. Dr. Morrill Wyman gave us a medical library of 3987 books and 4125 pamphlets, now in the Boston Medical Library, to which it has been indefinitely loaned or transferred. Few consulted it, except for curiosity, while it was here, but it has much professional value there.

"In closing this summary I cannot omit to express the gratitude which all have felt for Miss Etta L. Russell, who would undoubtedly, but for her personal refusal, have succeeded Miss Hayward in entire charge of the library, the cataloguing of which has always been in her hands. Acknowledgment is also to be made for the valuable services of Mr. William L. R. Gifford, who had charge of the library for the nine years following, after which he was tempted away by a more lucrative position in St. Louis. I must also add the name of Mrs. Winifred Mather, who rendered me the great personal service of preparing, with the aid of my secretary, Miss Eva G. Moore, an admirable bibliography of my own writings. This was followed by a similar one of my friend, Dr. William J. Rolfe, which was prepared under the direction of Miss Russell, who had previously prepared a valuable bibliography of Cambridge publications at the time of the city's two hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary.

"It is certainly very interesting to know that, under the guidance of such officials, the present number of books in the library is about twice as large as that in Harvard College in 1837, at the time I entered college, which then had only thirty-eight thousand volumes, whereas there are now seventy-seven thousand here and in the branch libraries. Yet the Harvard

library was then the largest in the United States, except one in Philadelphia. Now, in Gore Hall there are nearly half a million volumes already stored or provided for in the neighboring cellars, and we can only hope that this library will never be large enough to provide that humiliating retreat for quite so many."

Mr. William C. Bates, superintendent of the Cambridge public schools, was next introduced by Dr. McCarthy thus:—

"To the superficial observer a public library appears as an unnecessary luxury, consuming a large portion of the people's money in supplying enervating literature to the idle and ne'er-do-well. Were this true, the energy and care and the thought and study devoted to perfecting it as an instrument of education are more than wasted. But this view is not only not true, but it fails to consider that serious endeavor, the extent and perfection of which has raised the work of a public library to the position of a science. We must not expect that the power of appreciation is inborn in each individual, and it is only from those who are competent to judge that a fair estimate of any work may be obtained.

"As an expert skilled in the evaluation of educational methods, and as an interested and competent observer of the library's work, the superintendent of our public schools brings us greetings to-night, and it affords me a very great pleasure to invite William Clinton Bates to address you."

ADDRESS OF WILLIAM CLINTON BATES

"*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—As a representative of a co-ordinate branch of the public service, it gives me a great pleasure to bring to-night the greeting of the schools to the Cambridge Public Library. I cannot talk to you about the history of the library; my life with you here has not been long enough. I can only speak to you about what the library is to-day. This incident came to my knowledge.

"A family moved into Cambridge. There was in the family a small boy, who, when he came here, lost his old school, lost

his old friends, lost his familiar scenes and was lonely and sad. The library found him and took him in, entertained him and made him feel at home, put into his life a joy that was missing; and he told me that it saved him, as he expressed it, from being sick. That is what the library means to the boys and girls; it is a saving power.

"I think that libraries might be divided into two classes, libraries passive and libraries active. The library passive gets a great collection of volumes, and in its reports it tells us how many books it has on its shelves. This is the thing in which the library passive glories; it glories in what is shelved. The library passive says: 'I am here; come and find me. I shall receive you with a sort of solemn joy, and I shall take a melancholy satisfaction in attending to your needs, if they are not too numerous and are made known in good English': that is the library passive.

"This, the Cambridge Public Library, is the library active. It puts its goods before the people, and it sends out its monthly Bulletin in order that we may know the kind of goods it has to offer. This is the library that tells about its circulation, and where there is circulation there is life. This library sends its books by the thousands, every year, into the public schools. The very last time I happened to be in a school when the books were being collected to be sent back to the library, the teacher who was receiving them said, 'Oh, I am having such a hard time to get the books collected this week. The children are just wild over the books we have had from the library this time.' That is the expression she used, and I think it was fine that in our day, when we are so reserved, when we curb our enthusiasm so much, a teacher said, 'The children are just wild over the books they get from the library.'

"This is the library active. Every year it invites all the pupils from the ninth grades in the public schools, takes them all over the library, shows them all that there is here and says: 'All that there is here is yours; it is yours to enjoy; it is for your benefit.' Not long ago I went over into the Rindge Manual Training school one morning, and there, with the fires in the forges smouldering behind him, and with the fires of

youthful enthusiasm burning in front of him, I found the librarian standing before a class of young men, opening up to them the literature of blacksmithing. This is the library active, and, as a representative of the schools, it is an honor and a pleasure to me to bring here our greeting to-night."

Dr. McCarthy next introduced Mr. Sam Walter Foss, librarian of the Somerville public library, and poet of the evening:—

"I am told that travelers abroad are advised to study the cathedrals, like Westminster, because often these structures represent at once the record and the respect of generations for the distant past. The American is not unmindful of the sacredness attached to the house of worship, but he is apt to be surprised on learning that beneath the church floor lie the remains of the honored dead. The presence in the churches of tombs and effigies of the saints and heroes inspires awe as well as reverence.

"Something of this feeling, I think, should move us on entering this library, for enshrined within this building are memorials of the intellectual geniuses of the ages—Plato, Aristotle, Homer, Virgil, Shakespeare, Dante and Goethe. Each book is the record of a mind's achievements, an imperishable legacy of the past to the present, a monument that should inspire reverence and respect. What vocation, then, more sacred than that of the librarian, whose daily converse is with the immortals? Nor is it surprising that Parnassus may sometimes come within his view and that, moved by the divine breath, he may essay to scale the heights. Such a one is with us to-night, and I take great pleasure in introducing the poet-librarian of the Somerville Public Library, Sam Walter Foss."

INTRODUCTION AND POEM BY SAM WALTER FOSS

"*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—I am very glad to be here to-night as a neighbor, and I am very glad to be here as a friend. You have been trained up in the nurture of true wisdom for the last fifty years, but you have been fed and

re-enforced more or less by the cultured breezes that blew down from the nearby heights of Somerville.

"The modern library as an institution is so very modern, that a library, a public library, that is fifty years old, you might call almost hoary with antiquity. The library which I represent is thirty-five years old, and we are already beginning to feel the infirmities of age. We look down with a certain condescension upon numerous youngsters that are thirty, twenty-five, twenty; and only five years old; but although the library profession is so very young, I think that during its short existence there have been great changes and almost a complete revolution in the management of libraries.

"The old-time librarian and the modern-time librarian are entirely distinct and almost antagonistic figures, and in the little poem which I am going to read to you I try to describe these two men—the old-time librarian and the modern librarian. This poem of course does not describe any individual, but simply describes a type, and if there is a little trace of caricature in it, I hope it will not be taken too seriously, as it is simply intended to give a little added interest to the theme.

THE OLD AND THE NEW LIBRARIAN

Behold the lean librarian of fifty years ago,
A living index — good as Poole's — of all there was to know.
Omnivorous and omniscient, he gorged with books and knew
Their thought and contents, leaf by leaf, because he ate them through.
And stacked in his distended skull were tiers of lore, ah, me!
That made all cyclopedias a superfluity.
He shook the Tree of Knowledge and upon the library shelf
Put the fruit in winter storage, and devoured it all himself.
His books were gathered for himself, in dusty quietude;
Unhandled on the silent shelves in gapless tiers they stood;
And any hint had stirred his wrath and roused his indignation
To vulgarize their contents by promiscuous circulation.
The book was for the bookish man, and bookish men are few.
Should Learning's temple gulp the crowd — the mob's illiterate crew?
And so he lived his peaceful days and kept his treasures well,
Dwelling in airless alcoves with their educated smell.
In the still nooks of studious dreams, with folios and dust,
He made his public library a very private trust.

Ah, long of beard, and gaunt of form, and bleared of eye was he;
 A foodless, fleshless, shadowy man, who groped abysmally;
 Who groped abysmally about, amid his bookish smells,
 A shadowy apparition, hid behind his spectacles.
 Let not this lover of old books be in oblivion shoved,
 But let us love this lover, if we love not all he loved.

The modern-time librarian is trim and debonair;
 No printer's ink upon his hands, no book-dust in his hair.
 Well-rounded, sleek, and tonsured close, a man of worldly wit,
 He promenades his crowded aisles, attired in clothes that fit.
 With well-groomed people of affairs he mixes without note,
 And no protruding folios peer through his overcoat.
 His piled-up cords of wholesale books he measures with his eye—
 'Ten cords of fiction, two of art, and one philosophy;
 One quarter cord of poetry that nobody will read,
 One foot of pure religion to supply the public need.'
 And he intuits through the pores, by tactual contact knows
 The text and tone and quality of all his verse and prose.
 To all searchers after wisdom he voluminously proceeds
 With a general exposition of the books he never reads.

The olden-time librarian, who shared his books with few,
 Who loved the alcoved silence where the age-long cobwebs grew!
 The modern-time librarian, who sits amid the fray
 Of strenuous throngs who surge and fight for novels out to-day!
 To the olden-time librarian we pay our best good-will;
 He kept the torch of knowledge lit—because he held it still.
 The modern-time librarian he flaunts the torch about,
 And pours on fiction kerosene to keep it from going out.
 Ah, well the bookish oligarchs of fifty years ago
 Served Learning's aristocracy—the sifted few that know.
 But sages—they are always few—and common mortals teem—
 It takes a moderate depth of milk to make a film of cream.
 The modern-time librarian expands the common lot,
 Democratizes intellect and popularizes thought;
 He leads the hordes of men who write to greater hordes who read,
 And links the men who think the thought to men who do the deed.
 A leader of the simple and a teacher of the wise,
 A brother to the man who laughs, and him who prophecies.
 He fronts the men who wield the pick with men who wield the pen,
 And gives with sane munificence, the thoughts of men to men."

In presenting Mr. Horace G. Wadlin, librarian of the Boston public library, Dr. McCarthy said : —

“ A large library to which the public may have access is not an invention of modern times. Yet new conditions have imposed upon public libraries new functions and greater responsibilities. Co-existent with this broadening of its scope, the modern public library has attained its present development only by a careful study of the minutest details. With thousands and hundreds of thousands of books to be bought, classified, used and preserved, only a veritable genius for organization and system can control the multitudinous energies of a great public library. The master minds of gigantic business enterprises and the Napoleons of finance are not more versatile than the librarian of a great institution, such as the Boston Public Library, and it is my privilege to introduce to you to-night Mr. Horace G. Wadlin.”

ADDRESS OF HORACE GREELEY WADLIN

“ *Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—I count myself fortunate that through your courtesy I am able to bring to you on this jubilee evening the fraternal congratulations of the Boston Public Library. Perhaps I ought to say the ‘paternal’ congratulations, since the Boston library was practically the first public library, established by voluntary municipal taxation under definite legal sanction, for the benefit of all. I have no doubt that the immediate success of the Boston institution, and the reports and statements made in regard to it by Everett, Ticknor, and their colleagues led some six years later to the establishment of the library here. They may be called the fathers of the public library system in this country ; and not only in this country but in Europe, since that first legislative Act of 1848, enabling the city of Boston to levy a tax for library purposes, preceded the general and other special laws in Massachusetts under which your institution and others have been founded, and was also cited in the parliamentary discussions which preceded the passage of the first English library statute, that of 1850. The relation

of the Boston library to others may therefore be fitly called paternal.

"I suppose that every generation feels itself in advance of those that have preceded it, with respect to what it has accomplished in the march of progress. Whether or not our own generation is entitled to that prestige, it may at least be said that the last half of the nineteenth century, or the period since your library was established, has brought a greater extension of municipal functions for the benefit of all than was ever before seen in so short a time. Not the least of these extensions of function includes the public library system as it exists to-day.

"The public library is no longer a mere luxury, as it was considered by many fifty years ago. It is no longer a doubtful experiment. Argument is no longer needed to justify the establishment of such libraries, or to secure for them financial support. They have taken their proper place as an essential part of the municipal organization, closely connected in their operation with the development of citizenship. They supplement and extend the work of the public schools. They cover, in the work of public education, a field from which the schools, by their necessary limitations, are excluded; and, no less important, they provide through the circulation of imaginative literature an effective foil to the materialism of the day.

"They have secured not only liberal public appropriations of money, but have presented unexampled instances of private generosity. Last year Mr. Carnegie gave a million and a quarter dollars for such libraries. He has given in all more than fifty millions. These amounts are, on account of their magnitude, especially striking, but the spirit which has inspired them is not to be distinguished from that which has animated other givers. As a result many cities and towns of Massachusetts possess a beautiful and convenient building, a monument of architecture, perpetuating, as your building does, the memory of a public-spirited citizen, and at the same time enlarging the opportunities of all citizens, placing before them wider advantages in the domain of culture.

"Thus the American public library has been put upon firm

foundations. It meets conditions entirely modern in a field not hitherto occupied. Within the memory of men still young, there has occurred a social revolution; a peaceful revolution under the sanction of law. The city of Cambridge, when this library was founded, contained only twenty-five thousand persons, and the population of the entire Commonwealth was but a million and a quarter. The old life was self-centred and calm; the new is complex and restless. Formerly our population was comparatively homogeneous, derived from a common source, moved by similar beliefs. Now we have wide contrasts in material condition, severe industrial competition, and many shades of opinion. The incoming tide of immigration, the era of machinery, the friction of class with class, have turned our larger towns and cities into battle-grounds whereon the forces of evil are contending with the forces of good.

“Under modern conditions, a public library must reach all classes in the community. Such a library can no longer remain a mere storehouse for books, a museum for the collection of rare volumes, nor a quarry for literary artists.

“However important these functions, the public library meets other demands. It must expand upon the democratic side. Its sphere of usefulness must include the merchant, who may find in books a relief and respite from the strenuous activities of business; it must aid the workingman in increasing his industrial efficiency, and in some way bring him within its influence to a far greater extent than at present; it must provide for the children and introduce them to that great world of books whose horizon is beyond their ken; it must promote the use of books, not merely as instruments of knowledge, but as a means of culture and innocent enjoyment, and thus, so far as it may be done through the circulation of the printed page, extend the gospel of ‘sweetness and light.’

“The great libraries of the past were chiefly used by the select and cultured few. The modern public library brings the book to all. It enlarges the area of privilege. It conforms to the advancing social ideal, under which we ask not merely opportunity for ourselves, but for everyone, without distinction of sex, race, or nationality.

“The contrast between the new librarian and his predecessor, so amusingly portrayed by Mr. Foss, lies mainly in this : not that the new librarian may have less culture, less knowledge of books than the old ; the widest culture, the highest scholarship, is essential to-day, as always. But the old librarian was of the closet. He spent his days apart from the toil and traffic of the street, in the sweet seclusion of his cloistered walls. It was not that he loved books more, but apparently he loved men less, whereas the new librarian must know not only books but men. He should be a man of wide sympathies, who clearly comprehends the needs of the present day. He must be able to get his books into the hands of the people, that they may exercise their civilizing influence under the complex conditions of modern life.

“Your library in Cambridge is to be congratulated, not alone on completing fifty years since it was established, but upon the advance it has made toward the realization of that high ideal ; and I offer, in closing, my earnest wishes for your continued prosperity and success as you enter upon your second half-century of progress.”

Hon. Augustine J. Daly, ex-mayor of Cambridge, and a former trustee of the library, was then introduced by Dr. McCarthy as the last speaker of the evening : —

“Of eighty trustees who have served this institution during the past fifty years, twenty have been called by the popular voice to accept the responsibilities of the most important office within the gift of the people, that of mayor. Although the library is removed as far as possible from the turmoil of political strife, its proper administration demands the same qualities of mind and heart that make for success in the broader field of the world's activities. No better example of this can be given than the career of Ex-Mayor Daly, and although his achievements in that higher office have received the approval of our citizens as manifested by a testimonial unique in the history of Cambridge, we prefer to think of him to-night for his devotion to the interests of this library. Recalling that

faithful service, extending over a period of eight years, I shall content myself in presenting Hon. Augustine J. Daly, ex-trustee of the Cambridge Public Library."

ADDRESS OF AUGUSTINE JOHN DALY

"Among our city's many monuments to the memory of the great-hearted Frederick Rindge none is nobler than this building wherein is carried on the work of caring for, selecting, and distributing by every wise device the thousands of volumes that make up our library. It is no idle boast to say that this service has been of priceless value to the educational life of our city. The trustees and librarians of this department of our municipal welfare have proved their ability to meet the constantly increasing requirements of a growing city, and have kept this work up to the highest standard of efficiency. Every year they have discovered and recommended new avenues of influence for the library, so that to-day it is in easy and successful communication with nearly all parts of the city.

"The sub-stations, branch libraries, traveling libraries, and deposit stations have become instruments of immense value in bringing the resources of the main library to the very doors of the people. The extent and efficiency of this service are limited only by the means at the disposal of the officers having this branch of our educational system in charge.

"These plans of distribution for the purpose of bringing to the readers the ever-increasing knowledge found in the perusal of good books should command the heartiest support and encouragement of our public officers. While we recognize the difficulties in the financing of the departments in a great city, and are sensible of the numerous and worthy demands upon the public purse, we urge with renewed energy the just claims of this branch of our municipal service. Its benefits cannot be measured in money. Cambridge is enriched and ennobled by the opportunity given to the people to grow in knowledge by making use of the library's manifold privileges. The appropriation for its maintenance should never be decreased but rather increased when possible. We hear the advocates of economy protesting against this, but public or

private money is never misspent which results in the diffusing of the accumulated wisdom of all ages through the instrumentality of the printed page.

"Our schools deal only with the young. Our library is an educational force which has its ramifications not only among all degrees and conditions of men, but among people of all ages.

"This is a period of restlessness and desire for change. On every hand we note the deep interest and concern which is manifested in our public management and institutions. It is gratifying indeed to find, on the fiftieth anniversary of our public library, a past so full of honorable achievement and such a glorious promise for the future. Its records are full of deeds which have redounded to its credit and to the benefit of those who have taken advantage of its privileges. All this is an earnest for the future of what may be accomplished by enlarging the library's scope and plan.

"The future usefulness and benefit of our library may be immeasurably increased by making it an active agent in spreading correct views upon the subjects of municipal government, of the public ownership of public utilities, of the transportation of millions of people, of the public health, of the proper housing of the people, of trade unions and of capitalistic unions—all questions of the most vital importance to the welfare of our citizens. Its advantages in this respect should be utilized in every neighborhood. Its influence should be brought even more closely than it is to the rising generation by means of lectures and entertainments held in the halls of school buildings. These can be made the distributing points or advertising stations of the department with very little expense. They are well adapted to this use, and there is no reason why they should not be available for this purpose. In some of the more thickly settled portions of our city, places fitted for cheap entertainment are springing up. Young people who have leisure in the evening will seek diversion with or without profit. Furnish them with elevating entertainment in their own neighborhoods through the opening of the school halls to the work of the library."

At the close of the regular exercises of the evening Mr. Wheeler stepped to the platform and invited all present to inspect the library, especially the children's room, where refreshments were to be served. This room was found to be tastefully decorated with plants and flowers, including a large centrepiece of azaleas, the entire display having been furnished by Mr. Fred C. Becker, the florist. The refreshments were provided by Mr. George H. Whippen, the caterer. This portion of the entertainment was under the immediate charge of Mr. Wheeler, with the assistance of members of the library staff at the tables, and was thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed by the company.

Among the three hundred and more guests present at the celebration were included librarians of neighboring institutions, Mr. William C. Lane, of the Harvard College library, with Mrs. Lane; Mr. Gardner M. Jones, of the Salem public library; Mr. Frank E. Whitmore, of the Brockton public library; and Dr. James K. Hosmer, author and former librarian of the Minneapolis public library. Among trustees of other libraries who were present was Mr. William F. Kenney, trustee of the Boston public library. Among Cambridge people in the audience were ex-trustees Dr. Charles Bullock, Dr. Edward R. Cogswell, Mr. John H. Corcoran, with Mrs. Corcoran, Rev. J. Henry Duckrey, Dr. Philip M. Fitzsimons, and Mr. John H. Hurley; members of the city government, including aldermen Edward B. James, president of the board, J. Edward Barry, and Marshall F. Blanchard, councilmen Arthur E. Beane, Charles E. Carruth, 2d, Albert M. Chandler, Winslow Herbert Dodge, Irving N. Linnell, Jesse W. Moreland, and Philip B. Sharples, and mayor's clerk, Mr. Edward A. Counihan, with Mrs. Counihan; teachers in the public schools, including Mr. William F. Bradbury, headmaster of the Latin school, Mr. John W. Freese, principal of the Houghton school, with Mrs. Freese, Mr. Herbert H. Bates, principal of the Wellington Training school, with Mrs. Bates, and other well-known citizens and residents of Cambridge.

In aid of the celebration the city council granted a special appropriation of two hundred dollars (\$200), and the trustees

themselves bore the expense of the entertainment in the children's room after the regular exercises of the evening. Of the city appropriation the larger part was devoted to the publication of the present volume, and the remainder was expended for hire of the piano, erection of the platform, and other work necessary in preparing the library rooms for the celebration.

APPENDIX I

RULES FOR THE USE OF THE LIBRARY

I. REGISTRATION

All residents of the city of Cambridge, without age limit, who are made known as such to the librarian or his assistants, shall be entitled to the use of the library upon signing a promise to comply with such rules as may be adopted for its management.

II. CARDS

Each borrower is entitled to two cards: a general card for all classes of books, and a special card for non-fiction. On the general card may be charged only one book at a time, and on the special card, two books at a time.

A card must be presented when a book is called for, and must accompany a book or books returned.

All cards must be surrendered when the card holder ceases to be a resident, and a change of residence must be promptly reported at the library.

The loss of a card must be reported at once, and payment of three cents made for a new card.

III. CIRCULATION

Books for general circulation may be taken out for two weeks and renewed twice, except new and popular books, chiefly fiction, which are limited to one week, or two weeks, as marked, and may not be renewed or transferred. A book requested by another borrower may not be renewed.

A book wanted, but not in, may be reserved, on its return, for three days, or, if in demand, for only one day, by paying one cent for an addressed postal notice.

To teachers and others engaged in special study may be granted the privilege of taking out more than two, but not more than ten, books at one time (except fiction, recent non-fiction, books requested by another borrower, or otherwise

restricted), on the special card, which shall be stamped across its face *Special Privilege*. This privilege includes the use of the stack.

For the summer vacation ten books, not otherwise restricted, may be charged at one time on the general card, and kept, without renewal, for the time desired.

Summer school students and temporary residents for a period of not less than two months may have a temporary card, on which may be taken out three books at a time, only one to be fiction.

IV. RESTRICTED BOOKS

One-starred books may be taken out on approval of the assistant in charge of the delivery desk; two-starred books and all books otherwise restricted, including reference books, may be taken out only on the approval of the librarian.

Books wanted temporarily from the stack must be charged on a special slip, for Hall Use only, and may not be taken from the building unless charged on a card.

V. PERIODICALS

Bound periodicals published within ten years, and unbound numbers of periodicals more than six months old, may be taken out for three days only. Bound periodicals more than ten years old, and unbound numbers published within six months, may be taken out only on approval of the librarian.

These rules do not apply to duplicate copies of popular periodicals, which may be taken out for three days, if less than one month old, and for one week, if more than one month old.

In other respects periodicals are regarded as books.

VI. FINES, PENALTIES, ETC.

A fine of two cents a day is charged for each book overdue. Three days after a book becomes due, a first notice is sent to the borrower; after one week a second notice is sent; and after two weeks the book is sent for by the librarian. In no case shall the amount of the fine exceed the cost of the book and the expense of obtaining it. Non-payment of a fine suspends all use of both cards.

The injury or loss of a book is to be paid for by the borrower. The intentional injury of a book incurs, by statute law, a liability to a fine of fifty dollars or imprisonment for six months.

All persons will be required to conduct themselves quietly while in the library, and no loud conversation will be permitted.

Any person abusing the privilege of the library, by a violation of these rules, or in any other way, shall be immediately reported to the librarian, and by him, if the case requires it, to the trustees; and they may, in their discretion, exclude such person for a time, or permanently, from the use of the library, according to the nature of the offence.

VII. HOURS

The central library is open week-days, except legal holidays, from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M. ; Sundays from 2 to 9 P. M. The children's room is open week-days from 9 A. M. to 8 P. M. ; Sundays from 2 to 6 P. M. During July and August the children's room is closed daily at 6 P. M.

The East Cambridge branch library is open daily, except Sundays and legal holidays, from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. ; 3 to 5.30 and 6.30 to 9 P. M.

The North Cambridge branch library is open daily, except Sundays and legal holidays, from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. ; and from 2.30 to 9 P. M.

VIII. LOCAL DELIVERY

Books are collected three times a week, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, at or after 8.30 A. M., from stations in North Cambridge and the Mt. Auburn district, and after 9.30 A. M. from all other stations. Books are delivered on the same days, after 11.30 A. M., to stations in North Cambridge and the Mt. Auburn district, and after 1.30 P. M. to all other stations.

IX. SCHOOL DELIVERY

Books are delivered to all the schools of the city three times a year, and the allotment for each school is charged to its principal, who is expected to exercise all due care in the circulation of the books, but is not to be held personally responsible for their loss or injury.

APPENDIX II

RULES FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I

The board of trustees shall meet for organization on the Saturday succeeding the third Monday in January of each year, and shall elect by ballot a president, a secretary, and a treasurer, who shall continue in office until the meeting for organization in the succeeding January, or until their successors are chosen and qualified. Vacancies in said offices shall be filled at a regular meeting of the board, or at a meeting specially called for that purpose.

II

The secretary shall keep a record of all the proceedings of the board of trustees and shall have custody of all its record books and papers.

III

The treasurer shall have the custody of all trust funds belonging to the library and of all sums given to the library or to the trustees. The funds to be invested shall be under the direction of the committee on finance, subject to the approval of the board of trustees. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to collect all revenues accruing from said funds, or from other sources, to collect from the librarian, monthly, all moneys received by him in connection with the work of the library, and to dispose of the same as the board of trustees may direct. The securities belonging to the board shall be deposited in a safe deposit vault, which shall be opened only in the presence of the treasurer and one member of the committee on finance. The treasurer shall give bond in such form as the city solicitor shall approve, with sufficient surety or sureties, to be approved by the mayor, in such sum as shall be

determined by the board of trustees, which bond shall be executed, approved, and placed in the custody of the city auditor within thirty days of the treasurer's election. All checks and drafts drawn by the treasurer shall be countersigned by one member of the committee on finance.

IV

Regular meetings of the board of trustees shall be held at the library, or elsewhere in Cambridge, on the twenty-sixth day of each month, except when that day falls on Sunday or a holiday, in which case the meeting shall be held on the following business day. At least five days before the date of the regular meeting, the secretary shall send a written notification of the same to each member of the board.

V

A special meeting of the board of trustees may be called by the president at any time, or by the secretary upon written request of three trustees. A written notice, specifying the matter or matters to be acted upon at said special meeting, shall be sent to each member of the board by the secretary.

VI

The president shall appoint in succession each member of the board to be a visitor to the library for the purpose of inspection. Each visitor shall hold office for one week and may, at his pleasure or at the request of any member of the board of trustees, make a report embodying the results of his inspection.

VII

The president shall be *ex officio* a member of all committees of the board. He shall be chairman of the committee on finance, but not necessarily chairman of the other committees.

VIII

At the meeting for organization of the board of trustees, or as soon thereafter as convenient, the president of the board shall appoint three standing committees: two, of three trustees

each, to be called respectively the committee on the library and the committee on books; and one committee of two trustees, to be called the committee on finance.

IX

The committee on the library shall have general care and supervision of the library building, and see that the rooms and the furniture and fixtures of the same are kept in good order for use at all times, and to this end may purchase all necessary supplies. All assistants to be employed in the library, except those persons annually elected by the board, shall be recommended to the board for approval by the committee on the library. This committee shall have control of all matters not delegated to the committee on books, or to the committee on finance, or reserved for the action of the board of trustees.

X

The committee on books shall select and purchase all books, periodicals, and printed matter intended for the use of the library or reading rooms, and all materials necessary to preserve or prepare them for public use. This committee shall also make such necessary regulations for the use of the library or its branches as may appear expedient, subject to the approval of the board of trustees, and shall, from time to time, cause to be made an examination of all the books and other printed matter in the library and reading rooms, and report the condition of the same to the board.

XI

The committee on finance shall examine all bills brought against the city for expenditures connected with the library, and if found properly endorsed, as provided by Rule XII, shall report them to the board for its approval. It shall keep a record of all bills thus reported, and on the request of any member of the board shall state the condition and amount of the funds at the disposal of the board. It shall insure against loss by fire the contents of the library building. It shall

annually, or oftener, in its discretion, examine the securities comprising the trust funds held by the treasurer or any other person who may be appointed to hold the funds of the library in trust, and shall annually, in the month of December, audit the accounts of the treasurer, and report its findings to the board at the regular meeting in that month. It shall present to the board in the month of December, for transmission to the city government, an estimate of the needed expenditures of the library for the ensuing year. The treasurer shall not be a member of this committee.

XII

Every bill for expenses incurred by any standing committee, after having been approved by a majority of said committee, in meeting assembled, and not separately, shall be endorsed on its face as being "correct" by the regular chairman, or, in his absence, by some person temporarily chosen as chairman. Unless otherwise provided for by these rules, all standing committees shall report their findings and decisions to the board of trustees for its approval.

XIII

No committee shall have authority to expend money or contract bills against the city in excess of fifty dollars (\$50) in any one month, without first receiving the sanction of the board. This rule shall not apply to the purchase of books or periodicals by the committee on books.

XIV

Annually in the month of January, or as soon thereafter as convenient, the board shall elect by ballot a librarian; shall appoint one or more assistants, and such other employees as may be required, all of whom shall hold office during the pleasure of the board, and shall receive such compensation as the trustees shall determine. No person, however, shall be removed by the board unless for cause assigned, and after a hearing thereon by the board. Vacancies shall be filled at regular meetings.

XV

The board shall appoint a committee, at or before the regular meeting in November, to prepare the annual report required by the city ordinances. This report, when accepted by the board, shall have the written endorsement of at least a majority of the trustees.

XVI

A majority of the whole board of trustees and two members of any committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

XVII

These rules may be amended by the affirmative vote of a majority of the board of trustees; but no amendment shall be made unless notice in writing of the same shall have been given at a preceding regular meeting. These rules may be suspended by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the board.

APPENDIX III

(A)

ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS (1858-1908)

CENTRAL LIBRARY

1858	.	.	.	.	\$300.00	1884	.	.	.	.	\$6,494.15
1859	.	.	.	.	395.72	1885	.	.	.	.	7,000.00
1860	.	.	.	.	404.34	1886	.	.	.	.	8,000.00
1861	.	.	.	.	469.07	1887	.	.	.	.	8,534.34
1862	.	.	.	.	515.53	1888	.	.	.	.	7,317.12
1863	.	.	.	.	570.29	1889	.	.	.	.	9,500.00
1864	.	.	.	.	698.92	1890	.	.	.	.	12,596.85
1865	.	.	.	.	1,111.77	1891	.	.	.	.	13,500.00
1866	.	.	.	.	1,082.40	1892	.	.	.	.	14,000.00
1867	.	.	.	.	1,290.93	1893	.	.	.	.	14,640.48
1868	.	.	.	.	1,357.76	1894	.	.	.	.	14,761.31
1869	.	.	.	.	1,500.00	1895	.	.	.	.	16,500.00
1870	.	.	.	.	2,932.90	1896	.	.	.	.	18,500.00
1871	.	.	.	.	3,087.06	1897	.	.	.	.	19,000.00
1872	.	.	.	.	3,500.00	1898	.	.	.	.	19,000.00
1873	.	.	.	.	4,000.00	1899	.	.	.	.	20,000.00
1874	.	.	.	.	5,129.54	1900	.	.	.	.	19,000.00
1875	.	.	.	.	6,050.00	1901	.	.	.	.	19,000.00
1876	.	.	.	.	6,000.00	1902	.	.	.	.	18,000.00
1877	.	.	.	.	6,500.00	1903	.	.	.	.	18,000.00
1878	.	.	.	.	6,165.59	1904	.	.	.	.	18,700.00
1879	.	.	.	.	5,996.19	1905	.	.	.	.	20,700.00
1880	.	.	.	.	6,326.77	1906	.	.	.	.	21,715.00
1881	.	.	.	.	6,300.00	1907	.	.	.	.	21,500.00
1882	.	.	.	.	6,927.52	1908	.	.	.	.	21,950.00
1883	.	.	.	.	7,455.50						

EAST CAMBRIDGE BRANCH

1897	.	.	.	.	\$1,050.00	1903	.	.	.	.	\$1,400.00
1898	.	.	.	.	1,080.00	1904	.	.	.	.	1,800.00
1899	.	.	.	.	1,230.00	1905	.	.	.	.	1,880.00
1900	.	.	.	.	1,270.00	1906	.	.	.	.	1,892.00
1901	.	.	.	.	1,320.00	1907	.	.	.	.	2,039.00
1902	.	.	.	.	1,350.00	1908	.	.	.	.	2,439.50

NORTH CAMBRIDGE BRANCH

1906	.	.	.	.	\$1,385.00	1908	.	.	.	.	\$3,610.50
1907	.	.	.	.	2,600.00						

(B)

FUNDS OF THE TRUSTEES (1873-1908)

The five funds of the trustees are as follows:—

Fay fund, established 1873	\$1,000.00
Cummings fund, established 1889	2,000.00
Citizens' Subscription fund, established 1889	5,500.00
William E. Saunders fund, established 1902	7,409.54
James A. Woolson fund, established 1905	5,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$20,909.54

(C)

NUMBER OF BOOKS (1858-1907)

CENTRAL LIBRARY

1858	1,415	1883	15,983
1859	1,722	1884	17,030
1860	1,977	1885	18,137
1861	2,330	1886	18,372
1862	2,507	1887	19,352
1863	2,630	1888	20,440
1864	2,806	1889	22,398
1865	3,023	1890	29,745
1866	3,294	1891	33,379
1867	3,580	1892	36,643
1868	3,842	1893	44,023
1869	4,133	1894	46,770
1870	4,710	1895	49,448
1871	5,304	1896	51,679
1872	5,930	1897*	53,261
1873	6,672	1898	54,149
1874	7,420	1899	56,315
1875	8,268	1900	59,018
1876	9,044	1901	60,759
1877	9,838	1902	62,101
1878	10,923	1903	63,277
1879	11,934	1904	66,177
1880	12,812	1905	70,388
1881	13,770	1906	70,578
1882	14,564	1907	73,555

EAST CAMBRIDGE BRANCH

1906*	2,420	1907	2,700
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NORTH CAMBRIDGE BRANCH

1906	395	1907	1,698
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* From 1897 to 1905 the count for the East Cambridge branch was included in that of the central library.

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APPENDIX V

TRUSTEES AND LIBRARY STAFF (1908)

[Form of register for annual reports of the trustees]

TRUSTEES	Term expires
WILLIAM TAGGARD PIPER (of the School Committee)	January, 1909
JOHN BUCKLEY	" 1909
EDWARD P. COLLIER	" 1909
WILLIAM J. ROLFE	" 1910
EDWARD C. WHEELER	" 1910
ALBERT M. BARNES	" 1911
EUGENE A. MCCARTHY	" 1911

President

EUGENE A. MCCARTHY.

Secretary

CLARENCE W. AYER.

Treasurer

WILLIAM TAGGARD PIPER.

LIBRARY STAFF

CENTRAL LIBRARY

Librarian

CLARENCE W. AYER.

Assistant Librarian

ETTA LOIS RUSSELL.

Assistants

HARRIET D. LOCHMAN.
 CHARLOTTE E. STEWART.
 EVA FERRIS MAGEE.
 KATHARINE A. O'DONNELL.
 CAIRA D. HAWKES.
 RUTH A. SIBLEY.

LOUISE BRENNAN.
 EDITH E. SHERMAN.
 THERESA L. BURKE.
 ROY LE B. PERKINS.
 EDWARD P. O'BRIEN.

Sunday Attendants

JAMES A. ECCLES.

OLIVE TELFORD, children's room.

EAST CAMBRIDGE BRANCH LIBRARY

Custodian

MARY A. CURTIS.

Assistant

EDMUND J. BUTLER.

NORTH CAMBRIDGE BRANCH LIBRARY

Custodian

ELLEN M. HAYES.

Assistant

DOROTHEA M. GRAY.

Janitors

Central Library, THOMAS M. THOMAS, MICHAEL LOWRY.

East Cambridge Branch Library, JOHN J. MCCARTHY.

North Cambridge Branch Library, THOMAS DOYLE.

APPENDIX VI

TRUSTEES (1858-1908)

From 1858 to 1880 the board of trustees consisted of six members: the mayor of the city, one member of the board of aldermen, one member of the common council, and three citizens at large. In 1881 the number was increased to seven, five citizens at large and one member from each branch of the city government, the mayor no longer serving as trustee *ex officio*. In 1889 one member from the school committee was added, and by the continuance of Henry Hubbard Gilmore as trustee during his service of two years as mayor, the number of trustees was increased to nine. In 1893, the two members from the city government having ceased to serve as trustees, the membership of the board became constituted as at present, seven in number, six citizens at large, appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the board of aldermen, two each year for a term of three years, and one member from the school committee, appointed for a term of one year.

Of the whole number of eighty trustees, as shown in the group below, forty-seven are deceased. Among living ex-trustees President Charles William Eliot is the earliest in time of service, as member from the common council in 1866.

The longest period of service in the history of the library is that of Albert Mallard Barnes, the senior member of the present board, who has served continuously since 1889, the first three years as member from the school committee. Next longest was the service of Samuel Leland Montague for sixteen years, 1878-79 (as mayor) and 1881-96. Third in length of service is William Taggard Piper, member from the school committee for more than fifteen years, from 1892 to 1902 and from 1904 to the present time.

The following list contains the names of all the trustees, arranged in chronological order, together with their terms of service, indicating those from the city government by title of office, and those deceased by an asterisk (*): —

*JOHN REMICK (alderman)	1858
*JOHN SARGENT (mayor)	1858-1859
*MARSHALL TRAIN BIGELOW (councilman)	1858-1860
*GEORGE LIVERMORE	1858-1865
*ANSON HOOKER	1858-1869
*WILLIAM WILLIAMSON WELLINGTON	1858-1872
*JAMES PRENTISS RICHARDSON (alderman)	1859-1860
*JAMES DIMAN GREEN (mayor)	1860
*JARED SHEPARD (councilman)	1861
*LEVI L. CUSHING, JR. (alderman)	1861-1862
*CHARLES THEODORE RUSSELL (mayor)	1861-1862
*JOSEPH HOWE TYLER (councilman) 1862, (alderman)	1865
*GEORGE PUTNAM CARTER (councilman)	1863
*GEORGE CARTER RICHARDSON (mayor)	1863
*GEORGE HOWLAND FOLGER (alderman)	1863-1864, 1881-1883
*SAMUEL HILLIARD FOLSOM (councilman)	1864
*ZEBINA LEE RAYMOND (mayor)	1864
*SUMNER ALBEE (councilman) 1865, (alderman)	1866
*JOSEPH WARREN MERRILL (mayor)	1865-1866
CHARLES WILLIAM ELIOT (councilman)	1866
*CHARLES DEANE	1866-1875
*EZRA PARMENTER (mayor)	1867
*WILLIAM PAGE (alderman)	1867-1868
*JABEZ AUGUSTUS SAWYER (councilman) 1867	1884-1888
*ALVARO BLODGETT (councilman)	1868
*CHARLES HICKS SAUNDERS (mayor)	1868-1869
*GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS SMART (councilman)	1869-1870
*JOHN SAMUEL MARCH (alderman) 1869-1870	1873-1884
*HAMLIN RAND HARDING (mayor) 1870-1871, (alderman)	1873
*ANSON PARKER HOOKER	1870-1873
*JAMES RICHARDSON (councilman)	1871
*JOSEPH AMES HOLMES (alderman)	1871-1872
*JOSHUA GOODALE GOOCH (councilman)	1872
*HENRY OSCAR HOUGHTON (mayor)	1872
*ISAAC BRADFORD (mayor)	1873-1876
GEORGE FREDERICK PIPER (councilman) 1873-1875, (alderman)	1876-1877
*WILLIAM LAMBERT WHITNEY (alderman)	1874-1875
*JOHN BUNKER TAYLOR	1874-1877
*SEYMOUR BELKNAP SNOW (councilman)	1876
HERSEY BRADFORD GOODWIN	1876-1885
FRANK AUGUSTUS ALLEN (mayor)	1877
EDWARD PAYSON TUCKER (councilman)	1877, 1878-1880
*JAMES AUGUSTUS FOX (alderman)	1878
*SAMUEL LELAND MONTAGUE (mayor) 1878-1879	1881-1896
*ISAAC ALFRED NAY (councilman)	1878-1880



*MOSES GILES HOWE (alderman)	1879-1880
JAMES MORRIS WHITON HALL (mayor)	1880
WILLIAM BULLARD DURANT (councilman)	1881
*JOHN CONLAN	1881-1883
*HENRY HUBBARD GILMORE (alderman)	1881, 1884-1891
JOHN WOODS FAIRBANKS (alderman)	1882
*SAMUEL WALTON MCDANIEL (councilman) 1882, (alderman)	1883-1884
CHARLES BULLOCK (councilman)	1883
CORNELIUS GERRIT HENRY BENNINK (councilman)	1884-1885
*JOSEPH JAMES KELLEY	1884-1887
EDWARD RUSSELL COGSWELL (alderman)	1885-1887
EDGAR ROBERT CHAMPLIN (councilman)	1886
*CHARLES WALKER	1886-1890
JOHN HUBERT CORCORAN (councilman)	1887
HENRY ALOYSIUS DOHERTY (alderman)	1888
*OLIVER HEBER DURRELL	1888-1892
ALVIN FOYE SORTWELL (councilman) 1888, (alderman) 1889-1890	1891-1894
ALBERT MALLARD BARNES (school committee)	1889-1891, 1892-
THOMAS WENTWORTH HIGGINSON	1889-1903
EDWARD ALLEN BINGHAM (councilman)	1889-1890
JOHN HUGH HENRY MCNAMEE	1889-1893
JOHN ROBERT FAIRBAIRN (alderman)	1891-1892
EDWARD CLARK WHEELER (councilman) 1891	1897-
HERBERT AUGUSTUS CHASE (councilman)	1892
WILLIAM TAGGARD PIPER (school committee)	1892-1902, 1904-
JABEZ FOX	1893-1901
AUGUSTINE JOHN DALY	1894-1901
WILLIAM JAMES ROLFE	1895-1902, 1907-
EUGENE ALLAN MCCARTHY	1902-
JOHN HENRY HURLEY	1902
JOHN BUCKLEY	1903-
PHILIP MANSFIELD FITZSIMONS (school committee)	1903
JAMES HENRY DUCKREY	1903-1905
GEORGE FRANCIS MCKELLEGET	1904-1906
EDWARD PATRICK COLLIER	1906-

APPENDIX VII

OFFICERS OF THE TRUSTEES (1858-1908).

PRESIDENTS

Until 1881 the mayor of the city was presiding officer of the board of trustees (see Appendix VI). From that date the following members served as presiding officers, the earlier title of Chairman being changed, in 1890, to President:—

HENRY HUBBARD GILMORE, 1881, 1890-91	WILLIAM TAGGARD PIPER . . . 1896-02
SAMUEL LELAND MONTAGUE . . . 1882-89	EUGENE ALLAN MCCARTHY . . . 1903-
ALBERT MALLARD BARNES . . . 1892-95	

SECRETARIES

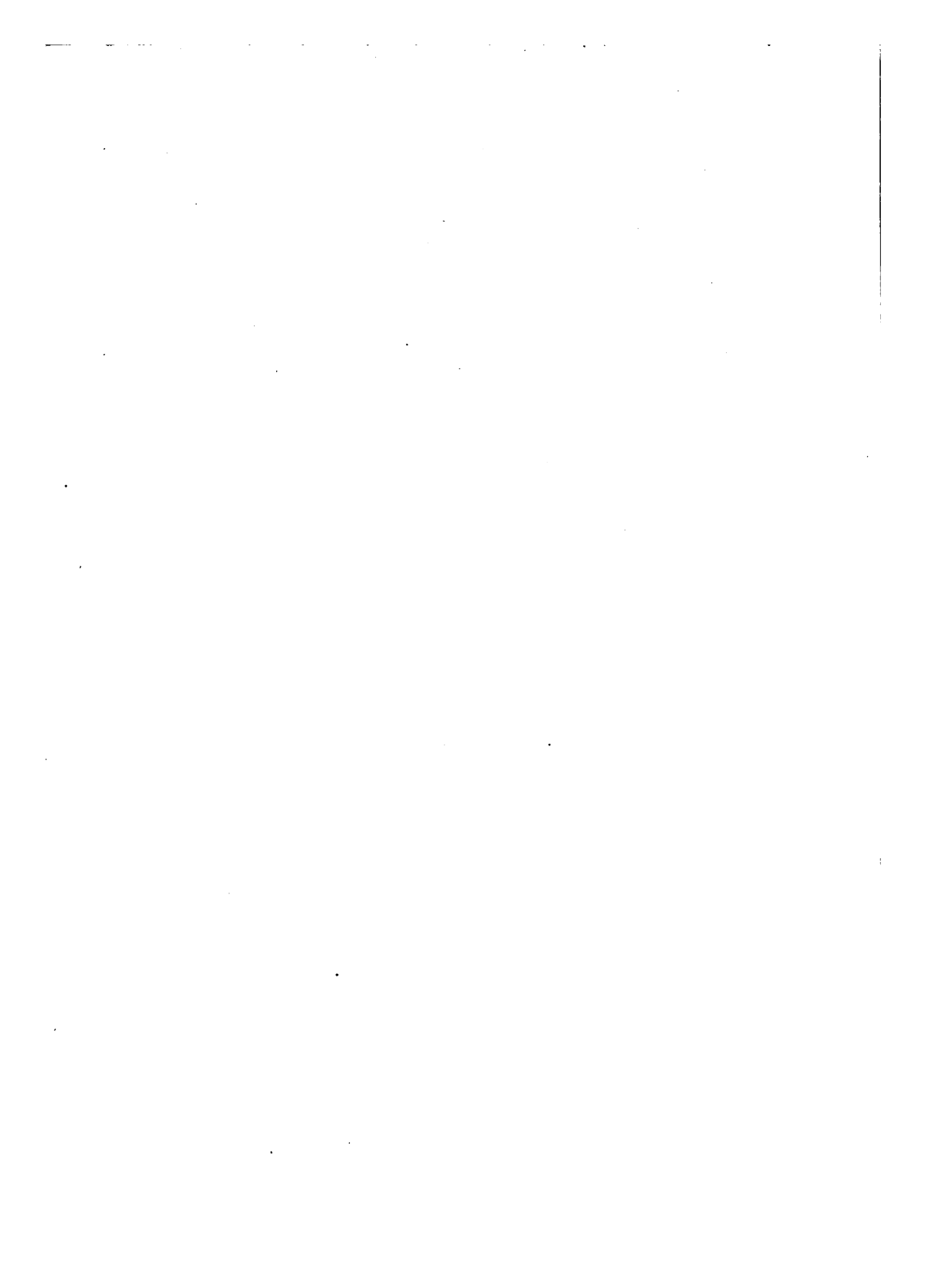
In 1872 J. Warren Cotton, clerk of the common council, served as secretary, and from 1899 the librarian has been appointed to that office. For the first three months of 1904, before the coming of the present librarian, Edward Clark Wheeler served as secretary.

MARSHALL TRAIN BIGELOW . . . 1858	JOHN CONLAN 1882-83
JAMES PRENTISS RICHARDSON . . . 1859-60	CORNELIUS G. H. BENNINGCK . . . 1884-85
LEVI L. CUSHING, JR. 1861-62	CHARLES WALKER 1886-90
GEORGE HOWLAND FOLGER 1863-64	OLIVER HEBER DURRELL 1891-92
SUMNER ALBEE 1865-66	JOHN HUGH HENRY MCNAMEE, . . . 1893
WILLIAM PAGE 1867-68	WILLIAM TAGGARD PIPER 1894-95
JOHN SAMUEL MARCH . . . 1869-70, 1875-81	JABEZ FOX 1896-98
JAMES RICHARDSON 1871	WILLIAM L. R. GIFFORD 1899-03
J. WARREN COTTON 1872	EDWARD CLARK WHEELER 1904
GEORGE FREDERICK PIPER . . . 1873-74	CLARENCE WALTER AYER 1904-

TREASURERS

Before 1890 there was no separate office of treasurer. For two years, 1890-91, the president of the board served also as treasurer, and from 1892 the office was distinct. From 1899 to 1903 the librarian was treasurer as well as secretary.

HENRY HUBBARD GILMORE . . . 1890-91	WILLIAM L. R. GIFFORD . . . , 1899-03
ALVIN FOYE SORTWELL 1892-94	WILLIAM TAGGARD PIPER 1904-
AUGUSTINE JOHN DALY 1895-98	



1858-1874



Caroline Frances Orne

1874-1894



Almira Leach Hayward

1894-97, 1904



Etta Lois Russell
Acting Librarian

1895-1904



William Lagan Footman Gifford

1904-



Clarence Walter Ager

LIBRARIANS OF THE CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1858—1908

APPENDIX VIII

LIBRARIANS (1858-1908)

The terms of service of the first two librarians covered thirty-six years (1858-1908), that of the first librarian, Caroline Frances Orne, being sixteen years, and that of the second librarian, Almira Leach Hayward, being the longest, with twenty years. The terms of the last two librarians covered nearly fourteen years (1895-1908), that of William Logan Rodman Gifford being about ten years, and that of the present librarian being four years. The two periods of service of Etta Lois Russell as acting librarian were from October 11, 1894, to March 1, 1895, and from January 23 to April 1, 1904.

The list of the five librarians, in chronological order, with dates of their terms of service, is as follows (see photograph facing this page):—

CAROLINE FRANCES ORNE	1858-1874
ALMIRA LEACH HAYWARD	1874-1894
ETTA LOIS RUSSELL (acting librarian)	1894-1895, 1904
WILLIAM LOGAN RODMAN GIFFORD	1895-1904
CLARENCE WALTER AYER	1904-

APPENDIX IX

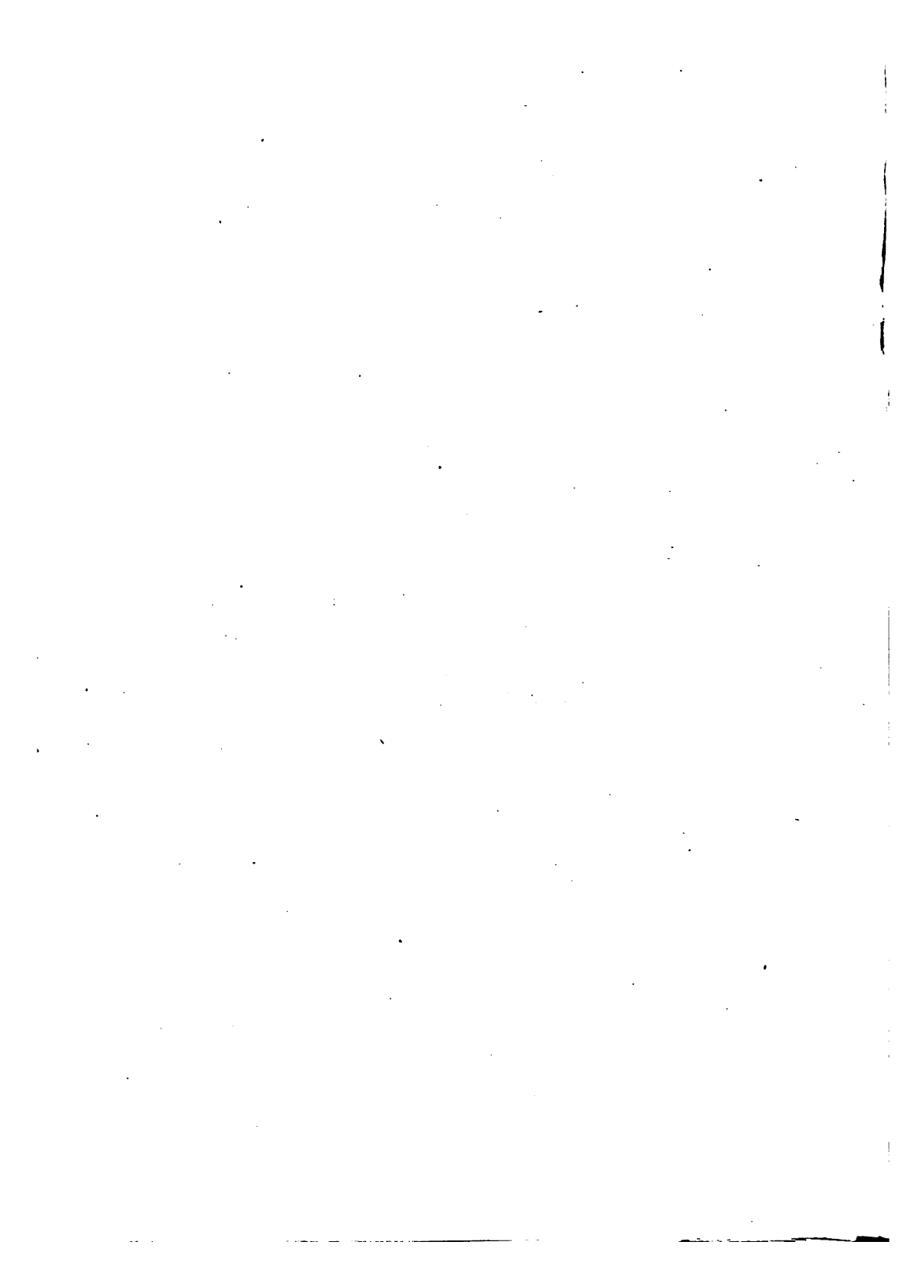
MEMBERS OF THE STAFF (1858-1908)

[Those marked with an asterisk (*) are deceased]

*CAROLINE FRANCES ORNE, Librarian	1858-1874
MRS. DOLLY S. KELLEY, Reading room attendant	1873-1881
*ALMIRA LEACH HAYWARD, Librarian	1874-1894
Teacher: Cambridge public schools, 1866-1869, 1873; Lookout Mountain, Tenn., 1869-1871; Rhode Island State Normal School, 1871-1872.	
*ELLEN FRANCES LOWELL, Assistant	1874-1895
ETTA LOIS RUSSELL, Assistant librarian	1877-
Chief desk assistant, 1877-1890; cataloguer, 1890-1897; head assistant, 1897-1908; acting librarian, 1894-1895, 1904; assistant librarian, 1908-	
*JOHN LITTLE, Janitor and police officer	1879-1888
LIZZIE ANNIE WILLIAMS, Assistant	1888-1891
Librarian, Malden public library, 1891-	
*ANDREW J. AYERS, Janitor	1889-1893
ROSE FOLEY, Desk assistant	1890-1891
GRACE REED, Chief desk assistant	1890-1892
(Mrs. John W. H. Walden.)	
WINIFRED BERRY SMITH, Assistant; reference librarian; cataloguer	1891-1896, 1897-1906
(Mrs. Maurice W. Mather.) Assistant librarian, Brookline, 1896-1897.	
GRACE CLARK, Chief desk assistant	1891-1897
(Mrs. Arthur H. Frost.)	
*ANDREW SPROUL, Police officer	1891-1899
ISABEL AUGUSTA JACOBS, Desk assistant	1892-1897
(Mrs. Arthur R. Henderson.)	
THOMAS MERIWEATHER THOMAS, Janitor	1894-

WILLIAM LOGAN RODMAN GIFFORD, Librarian	1895-1904
A. B., Harvard, 1884. Assistant librarian, Free Public Library of New Bedford, 1884-1895; librarian, St. Louis Mercantile Library, 1904-	
President, Massachusetts Library Club, 1899-1900, and Missouri Library Association, 1906-1907.	
CHARLOTTE EVANGELINE STEWART, Chief local assistant . .	1895-
JEANNETTE IRVING HALLETT, Assistant	1895-1901
(Mrs. Guido Luigi Carpi.)	
HARRIET DEAN LOCHMAN, Chief desk assistant	1896-
HAIDA NEWTON PARKER, Assistant; reference librarian . .	1896-1903
HAROLD TAYLOR DOUGHERTY, Evening attendant	1897-1898
Assistant, Library of Congress, 1900-1902, 1904-1907; assistant, Library of Superintendent of Documents, 1902-1903; librarian, Waltham public library, 1907-	
ALFRED EVERETT THAYER, Assistant	1897-1905
JAMES FORREST SANBORN, Evening attendant	1897
JOHN JOSEPH HENDERSON, Custodian, East Cambridge branch	1897-1903
CHARLES SUMNER MARSH, Janitor, East Cambridge branch	1897-1901
EDITH CALLENDER, Desk assistant; reference librarian . .	1898-1901
(Mrs. Joseph M. Norton.)	
EDWARD H. TAYLOR, Evening attendant	1898-1901
HARRIS STEWART WHITTEMORE, Evening attendant	1899-1900
JOHN CHARLES FEARNs, Evening attendant	1900-1901
JOSEPH HALL FURBUSH, Police officer	1900-1902, 1904-
EFFIE LOUISE CHAPMAN, Assistant	1901-1903
Assistant librarian, New-England Historic Genealogical Society, 1903-	
*LIZZIE EDNA BROOKS, Assistant; reference librarian . . .	1901-1907
JOHN JOSEPH MCCARTHY, Janitor, East Cambridge branch	1901-
ROY LE BARRON PERKINS, Assistant	1902-
FLORA LILIENTHAL, Sunday attendant	1902
ROBERT LAWRENCE SMITH, Sunday and evening attendant	1902-1906
HOWARD BARRETT WILSON, Evening attendant	1902
CHESTER ARTHUR GARFIELD, Sunday and even'g attendant	1902-1904
CHARLES PRIEST, Police officer	1902-1903

ELLEN MAGDALENE HAYES, Desk assistant	1903-1906
Custodian, North Cambridge branch	1906-
KATHARINE ALACOQUE O'DONNELL, Assistant	1903-
FRANCES N. A. WHITMAN, Sunday attendant	1903
FLORENCE SEWELL, Sunday attendant	1903-1905
Assistant librarian, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., 1905-	
JAMES SCOTT ALEXANDER, Police officer	1903-1904
MARY AGNES CURTIS, Custodian, East Cambridge branch .	1903-
CLARENCE WALTER AYER, Librarian	1904-
A. B., Harvard, 1885; A. M., 1888. Teacher, chiefly of English, 1885-1895; assistant, Harvard College library, 1895-1899; librarian, Brockton public library, 1899- 1904.	
Vice-president, Massachusetts Library Club, 1900-1901.	
ALICE O'BRIEN, Children's librarian	1904-1907
CLAUDE HAINES KETCHUM, Evening attendant	1905
DANIEL FRANCIS BURKE, Assistant, East Cambridge branch	1905-1907
FLORENCE CHAPMAN HICKS, Assistant	1906
EVA FERRIS MAGEE, Cataloguer	1906-
LOUISE BRENNAN, Assistant	1906-
EDITH EMMA SHERMAN, Assistant	1906-
JAMES ALBERT ECCLES, Sunday and evening attendant .	1906-
EDWARD PAUL O'BRIEN, Assistant	1906-
MICHAEL LOWRY, Assistant janitor	1906-
JAMES STEVENSON CRAWFORD, Assistant, North Cambridge branch	1906-1907
DOROTHEA MARGUERITE GRAY, Assistant, North Cambridge branch	1906-
THOMAS DOYLE, Janitor, North Cambridge branch . .	1906-
THERESA LILIAN BURKE, Assistant	1907-
CAIRA DOUGLASS HAWKES, Children's librarian . . .	1907-
WILLIAM HAROLD ECKERT, Evening attendant	1907
OLIVE TELFORD, Sunday attendant	1907-
EDMUND JOHN BUTLER, Assistant, East Cambridge branch	1908-
RUTH ANNIE SIBLEY, Reference librarian	1908-





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